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Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-153 CONTENTS *10 August 1989*

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Palestinian Affairs

Further Reportage on 5th Fatah General Congress 1
'Text' of Fatah Political Program *[Baghdad Voice of the PLO]* 1
Committee Members' Votes Listed *[Baghdad Voice of the PLO]* 4
PFLP Calls For 'All Forms of Struggle' *[SANA]* 4
8 Aug Hostage Incident in Israel Noted *[Sanaa VOP]* 4
'Arafat To Visit Jordan for 'Important Talks' *[Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' 10 Aug]* 4
Palestinians Polled on Al-Tarifi-Shamir Meeting *[Kuwait AL-WATAN 27 Jul]* 5
PPFS Leader on Uprising, Ties With Iran *[Dubayy AL-BAYAN 7 Aug]* 5

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Embassy Denies Arms Shipment to Mauritania *[Algiers Radio]* 8

Egypt

'Abd-al-Majid Welcomes 'Arafat Reelection *[MENA]* 8
Paper on Fatah Congress' Rejection of Shamir Plan *[MENA]* 8
U.S. President Bush Telephones Mubarak 9 Aug *[Cairo Radio]* 8
Further on Abu-Talib's Comments on U.S. Visit *[MENA]* 8
AL-AHRAM Cited on Visit *[MENA]* 9
Badr Views Hulwan Iron, Steel Mill Incidents *[AL-WAFD 4 Aug]* 9
AFP: Police Arrest 35 Muslim Fundamentalists 10

Libya

Jallud Receives USSR's Katushev in Tripoli *[JANA]* 10
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Somali Military Delegation *[JANA]* 10
JANA Editor on Western 'Plot' in Lebanon 10

Sudan

Trade Union Leaders Arrested Over Weekend *[BBC]* 11
Security Forces Find Weapons Near Khartoum *[MENA]* 11
Al-Bashir Receives Message From Egypt's Mubarak *[MENA]* 11

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Bahrain

Foreign Minister Interviewed on Washington Talks
[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 5 Aug] 12

Kuwait

Jordanian Prime Minister Delivers King's Message *[Kuwait Radio]* 13
Meets Amir, Foreign Minister *[Amman Radio]* 13
Oil Minister Justifies Cost of Tanker Reflagging *[KUNA]* 13

PDRY

Council of Ministers Meets, Discusses Reform *[Aden Radio]* 14

Qatar

Jordan's Ibn-Shakir Arrives in Doha 9 Aug *[Abu Dhabi Radio]* 14
Delivers King's Message to Amir *[Amman Radio]* 14
Departs 9 Aug *[WAKH]* 15

Saudi Arabia

Printing Technology Agreement Signed With Taiwan *[Taipei CNA]* 15

IRAQ

Information Minister Views 11 Aug ACC Meetings *[INA]* 16
Minister on Strategic Importance of Al-'Aqabah *[Kuwait AL-WATAN 8 Aug]* 16

ISRAEL

Shamir Terms Labor Decisions 'Bribes' *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 17
Shamir, Levi Critical of Labor *[MA'ARIV 10 Aug]* 17
Hizballah Demand for 'Ubayd Release Rejected *[Jerusalem International]* 17
Shamir, Bush Discuss Hostages *[Jerusalem TV]* 18
Release of All Hostages Demanded *[Jerusalem Radio]* 18
Institute Uncertain on Higgins' Time of Death *[Jerusalem Radio]* 18
'Terrorists' Encouraged by U.S.-PLO Dialogue *[Jerusalem Radio]* 18
Sabotage of U.S.-PLO Hostage Agreement Denied *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 18
Editorial Urges More Action Against Hizballah *[MA'ARIV 4 Aug]* 18
AL-FAJR on U.S. Meetings With Palestinians *[7 Aug]* 19
Editorial on Al-Tarafi's Talks With Shamir *[AL-FAJR 31 Jul]* 20
Ministers Issue Document Restricting Statements *[Jerusalem Radio]* 20
Monthly Draft 'Largest' in IDF History *[DAVAR 4 Aug]* 21
New AEW Aircraft Under Development *[THE JERUSALEM POST 10 Aug]* 21
Police Make 'Largest Heroin Seizure Ever' 21
Egyptian, U.S. Assistance Praised *[Jerusalem Radio]* 22
More on Drug Seizures, Arrests 22
Tourism Up 8 Percent Over 1988 Figures *[THE JERUSALEM POST 9 Aug]* 22
Sharp Rise in Exports Narrows Jul Trade Deficit *[THE JERUSALEM POST 10 Aug]* 22
Poll Shows Polarization in Wake of Uprising *[HADASHOT 8 Aug]* 23
Boy Killed in Gaza Strip 9 Aug; Curfew Update *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 24
More Deaths Reported *[Jerusalem Radio]* 24
Further on 9 Aug Unrest *[THE JERUSALEM POST 10 Aug]* 24

JORDAN

U.S. Must Tackle 'Terrorist Israeli Mentality' *[AL-RA'Y 6 Aug]* 26
Shamir Reveals Projected Peace Plan Outcome *[JORDAN TIMES 1 Aug]* 26
Plan To Cut West Bank Awqaf Ties Possible *[Jerusalem AL-QUDS 4 Aug]* 27
Plan 'Strongly' Denied *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 10 Aug]* 27
Unlicensed Democratic People's Party Formed *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 27
Ministers Confirm Aid, Deny Debt Pact With Iraq *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 10 Aug]* 27
CBJ Governor Cited on Dinar Stability *[WAKH]* 28
Counterfeit U.S. Dollars Seized at Border Post *[AL-RA'Y 9 Aug]* 28

LEBANON

Hizballah Says All Paths to Exchange 'Closed' *[AFP]* 29
Western Hostages Reportedly Moved to Al-Biqa' *[RFL]* 29
Hizballah Branch Denounces 'Ubayd Abduction *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 29

Hizballah Stresses Israeli Responsibility *[Voice of National Resistance]* 29
Further Reportage on Bombing in Southern Zone *[Jerusalem Radio]* 29
'Dozens' Questioned; Crossings Open *[Jerusalem Radio]* 29
More on Car Bombing *[Tehran Radio]* 30
Al-Huss, Fadlallah Praise Attack *[Voice of National Resistance]* 30
Al-Musawi Praises Attack *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 30
Bulgarian Nationals To Leave by 10 Aug *[RFL]* 30
'Awn Assails Syria in 9 Aug News Conference *[VOL]* 31
PSP Expels Palestinians From Iqlim al-Kharrub *[VOL]* 31
Further on Deportations *[RFL]* 31
Further on Al-Huss' Appeal to Arab Committee *[Beirut Radio]* 31
Shelling Reported in Beirut Areas 10 Aug *[VOL]* 32
Aircraft Overfly Mountain *[VOM]* 32
Casualties Reported *[VOL]* 32

SYRIA

Press Assesses Government Support for Lebanon *[Damascus Radio]* 33
Resistance 'Must Be Escalated' To Topple 'Awn *[Damascus Radio]* 33
Reaction to Arab Committee Statement Viewed *[Damascus Radio]* 34
Egyptian Unions' 'No' to Israeli Ties Cited *[AL-BA'TH 1 Aug]* 35
Rally Marks Egyptian Revolution Anniversary *[AL-THAWRAH 30 Jul]* 35
Information Minister Returns From Harare 7 Aug *[Damascus Radio]* 35

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Pakistani Charge Summoned to Foreign Ministry *[Kabul Radio]* 36
Najibullah Calls For Aid to Terrorists' Victims *[Kabul Radio]* 36
Orders Urgent Assistance *[Kabul Radio]* 36
IRNA Says Mujahidin Commander 'Poisoned' 37
Missiles Hit Residential Areas, Casualties Noted *[Kabul Radio]* 37
Mujahidin Capture 4 Security Posts Near Kabul *[Islamabad Radio]* 37
Rebel Munitions Captured in Nangarhar *[Kabul Radio]* 37

Bangladesh

Ershad Calls Up Troops for Rescue Operations *[AFP]* 37
Ershad Urges Steps Against Proletariat Party *[Dhaka Radio]* 38
Minister Appointed; Navy Chief Tenure Extended *[Dhaka Radio]* 38

India

Sri Lankan Workers Reluctant To Unload Goods *[Delhi Radio]* 38
No Actions Planned To Affect Nepalese Economy *[Delhi Radio]* 38
Expeditious Financial Misconduct Probe Planned *[Delhi Radio]* 38
Gandhi Cited on Opposition; Remarks on Sri Lanka *[Delhi Radio]* 39
50 Injured in Union Carbide Bhopal Plant Protest *[AFP]* 39
13 Killed, 35 Injured in Haryana Bomb Blast *[Delhi Radio]* 40
General Alert in Delhi *[Delhi Radio]* 40
Special Battalion Set Up To Check 'Terrorism' *[Delhi Radio]* 40
Assam Government Offers Talks With ABSU *[AFP]* 40
Congress-I Calls Strike in Andhra Pradesh *[Delhi Radio]* 41
Paper Comments on U.S. Anti-India Propaganda *[THE HINDUSTAN TIMES 31 Jul]* 41
Paper Analyzes Current Relations With China *[THE HINDUSTAN TIMES 26 Jul]* 43

Iran

Indirect Talks With U.S. 'To Begin in Days' *[IRNA]* 44
KEYHAN Assails U.S. Rapprochement Attempts *[IRNA]* 44

Tehran Radio Notes Shamir-Bush Conversation 45
New President's Remarks on Hostages Praised *[TEHRAN TIMES 5 Aug]* 45
U.S. Officials Admit to 'Espionage Network' *[Tehran Radio]* 45
Majlis Official Regrets Higgins Execution *[TEHRAN TIMES 5 Aug]* 46
Commentary on Archbishop of Canterbury's Message *[Tehran Radio]* 46
Suicide Attack on Israeli Convoy in Lebanon Noted *[Tehran Radio]* 47
Commentary on Action of Jordanian Soldier *[Tehran Radio]* 47
'Letter of Understanding' Signed With Pakistan *[IRNA]* 48
Iravani, Japanese Envoy on Petrochemical Project *[Tehran Radio]* 48
Commentary Assesses Situation in Somalia *[Tehran Radio]* 48
Shiite Mujahidin Proposal to 7-Party Alliance *[Tehran Radio]* 49
Afghanistan's Islamic Movement's Problems Viewed *[JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI 24 Jul]* 50
ETTELA'AT Commentary on Year-Old Cease-Fire *[25 Jul]* 51
Khamene'i Bids Farewell to Office Staff *[Tehran Radio]* 53
Khamene'i, Prime Minister Musavi Meet 9 Aug *[Tehran Radio]* 53
Khomeyni, Meshkini, Others Mark Hoseyn Martyrdom *[Tehran Radio]* 54
Industries Minister Cited on Investment Plan *[IRNA]* 54
Central Bank Governor Holds News Conference *[IRNA]* 54

Pakistan

Yaqub Khan Meets With Mojaddedi, Offers Support *[AFP]* 54
Foreign Minister To Visit Tehran 16 Aug *[Islamabad Radio]* 55
Agriculture, Forestry Ties With Iran To Increase *[Islamabad Radio]* 55
Political Rivalries Said To Halt Ship Unloading *[AFP]* 55
Ongoing Army War Games in Rawalpindi Reported *[Islamabad Radio]* 56
Customs Officials Seize 6.5 Tonnes of Hashish *[Islamabad Radio]* 56

Sri Lanka

AFP Updates Continuing Political Violence 56
Film Producer Among 29 Killed *[Delhi TV]* 57
Police Station Attack, Union Strike Noted *[AFP]* 57
Government Accused of Brutal Reprisals for Deaths *[BBC]* 57
President Asks All Parties To Appeal for Peace *[Colombo International]* 57
Minister on Devolution of Power, Indian Pullout *[Delhi Radio]* 58
Tamil Minister Demands Inclusion in Talks *[AFP]* 58

Palestinian Affairs

Further Reportage on 5th Fatah General Congress

'Text' of Fatah Political Program

JN0908200089 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1855 GMT 9 Aug 89

["Text" of the political program issued by the fifth general congress of the Fatah Movement in Tunis on 8 August]

[Text] Palestine is a part of the Arab homeland. The Palestinian people are an indivisible part of the Arab nation. The Palestinian people have been living in their homeland, Palestine, from time immemorial. They have enriched human civilization in all spheres. They have always been a people defending their holy land. They held out in the face of the invasions of the Europeans [crusaders] and Tartars and have forged epics, along with their nation, in the battles of Hittin and 'Ayn Jalut. Since the dawn of Islam and up to the present, the Palestinian people have been the heart of the Arab and Islamic nation protecting the first Qiblah and the third holiest shrine [al-Aqsa mosque] and safeguarding the sanctuary represented by the destination of Prophet Muhammad's nocturnal journey and the cradle of Christ, may God's peace and blessings be upon them.

The Zionist conquest came at the beginning of this century to uproot the Palestinian people, end their civilization, and implant a Zionist entity designed to carry out the imperialist schemes that seek to control the Arab homeland's resources and make this homeland a part of the colonialist's spheres of influence.

The Palestinian people have held out in the face of this Zionist-colonialist barbarism. The convoys of martyrs continued. Over the past 30 years, the Palestinian people have offered hundreds of thousands of martyrs, wounded, and prisoners. The crime was consummated by the partition of Palestine and the establishment of the Zionist entity state in 1948.

Most of the Palestinian people were scattered outside their homeland and forced to live in exile in the diaspora. However, these people have continued to believe in their civilizing and militant role, and thus they were builders of civilization wherever they lived.

Under hard and extremely difficult circumstances, the Palestinian National Liberation Movement-Fatah launched the armed revolution on 1 January 1965. Then, the Palestinian people poured into the river of the revolution. The challenges, massacres, and victories resulted in heroic epics that captured the attention of the world.

In the Karamah epic in 1968, the 1970-71 massacres in Jordan, and the epic of steadfastness in southern Lebanon and Beirut in 1982, the great Palestinian people have shown a unique ability to resist to safeguarding their identity and their independent Palestinian national decisionmaking. This has led to large-scale international support by world states and various political organizations.

Then came the conspiracies hatched by the Syrian regime and carried out by its agent tools, including the dissension conspiracy, the double siege of Tripoli, and the war of siege and elimination against the sons of our people in the camps. The conspiracy sought to contain the Palestinian revolution and to end its effective role within the equation of the conflict.

However, the steadfastness of our people in the camps of steadfastness and the valor demonstrated by the combatants of the Fatah Movement have foiled the schemes hatched by the conspirators. Our movement, Fatah, has faced up to the challenge and managed to safeguard our national unity and the independent Palestinian national decisionmaking. This was demonstrated through its ability to hold consecutive Palestine National Council [PNC] sessions, thus deepening national unity, bolstering its cohesion, and paving the groundwork for the launching of the blessed Palestinian intifadah [uprising] which was launched on 8 November 1987 and which has continued to escalate for more than 20 months. The intifadah has driven a deep crack in the barbarous Zionist entity, strongly attracted the world's attention to the justice of our cause, and imposed a new political reality that has had a great impact on all Palestinian, Arab, and international levels.

Thus, the intifadah has added and continues to add shining chapters to the record of the struggle of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation. The PLO has crowned the intifadah with a great political achievement that matches the greatness and sacrifices of our people. The 19th PNC session—the Abu-Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] session—issued resolutions that were received with satisfaction by the world states. At this session, we presented to our people the document of independence and the proclamation of the state of Palestine, which has been recognized by over 100 states.

Now, after these huge challenges and great achievements, we convene the fifth general congress of our Fatah Movement with more resolve and determination to continue the struggle with all possible means—political and military—to liberate our homeland and establish our state, the independent state of Palestine with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

It has now become clear to all that the Palestinian people are a fact that cannot be ignored and that no peace, stability, or security in the Middle East can be achieved without recognizing this people's right to self-determination and national independence. Therefore, while paying

tribute to our movement's achievements since its establishment on 1 January 1965, culminating in the proclamation of Palestinian independence and the establishment of the independent state of Palestine at the 19th emergency PNC session, the fifth general congress of Fatah Movement specifies our future objectives as follows:

First: On the Palestinian level:

1. The Palestine question is the core of the Arab-Zionist conflict.

2. Firm adherence to Palestinian Arab national inalienable rights in their homeland Palestine, including their right to repatriation, self-determination without foreign interference, and the establishment of their independent state with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

3. Asserting the unity of our Palestinian Arab people inside and outside Palestine and rallying around the PLO, the leader of their struggle and their sole, legitimate representative.

4. The fifth Fatah general congress affirms the historic importance of the resolutions of the 19th PNC session, particularly the document of independence. The congress supports the establishment of the independent state of Palestine and extends thanks to the Arab and friendly states that have recognized it. The congress authorizes the movement's Central Committee to work on all levels to implement the resolutions of establishing the Palestinian people's national inalienable rights, headed by the right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of the state of Palestine on Palestinian soil with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

5. Continuing to intensify and escalate armed action and all forms of struggle to liquidate the Israeli-Zionist occupation of our occupied Palestinian land and guaranteeing our people's right to freedom and independence.

6. Bolstering national Palestinian unity on the various political and military levels, reiterating the PLO's leading role, and escalating the popular intifadah aimed at ending the Zionist Israeli occupation.

7. Reiterating that the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of our Arab Palestinian people wherever they are; the leader of their national resistance; their spokesman in Arab and international forums; and that it will resist all attempts to encroach on it, bypass it, surround it, or create alternatives or partners in representing the Palestinian people.

8. Rejecting and resisting the autonomy plan and the other liquidation plans aimed at entrenching the colonialist Zionist occupation.

9. The Fatah fifth congress rejects the Shamir plan on elections and affirms that any election in our occupied territory must take place in a free and democratic atmosphere under international supervision after the withdrawal of the Israeli forces, and that elections must be a link in an integrated plan for the final solution.

10. Taking into consideration the important achievements in the Palestinian arena as a result of our people's continuous struggle and their blessed intifadah as well as the new situations and facts created by the intifadah in the Arab and international arenas, the Fatah general congress stresses the PLO's right to participate—independently and on an equal footing with the other parties—in all the international conferences and efforts on the Palestine question and the Arab-Zionist conflict.

11. Providing all forms of support to reinforce the steadfastness of our masses in Lebanon's camps to stand in the face of the Israeli aggression and all its schemes aimed at scattering and displacing them and to consolidate the right of the sons of these camps to defend their presence, security, and natural right to join the people's militant march under the PLO.

12. Continuing the dialogue with the Israeli democratic forces that reject occupation; understand our people's inalienable rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of the independent state of Palestine; and recognize the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

13. In light of the significant effect of the demographic factor on our conflict with the Zionist enemy, and in light of the huge efforts exerted by the Zionist movement to encourage Zionist immigration to Palestinian territory, the congress has decided to set up an ad hoc committee within the Revolutionary Council to oppose the Zionist immigration to our homeland and to assume all cultural, information, and political tasks to prevent the arrival of Jewish immigrants in our occupied homeland.

Second: On the Arab level:

1. The fifth general congress of the Fatah Movement salutes the solidarity of the Arab masses with our Palestinian revolution and the blessed intifadah of our people and calls on them to embody this solidarity within in practical ways on the pan-Arab level.

2. The congress appreciates the resolutions of the Arab summits on the issue of the intifadah and those that support it, particularly the Algiers and Casablanca summits. The Fatah congress calls on the Arab countries to abide by and implement all the resolutions and honor their financial commitments.

3. Promoting relations with all national and democratic parties, movements, and forces in the Arab homeland and working toward providing popular backing and

support for the intifadah and the PLO. The congress also recommends the formation of support committees for the intifadah on the pan-Arab level.

4. Respecting the right of the Palestinian revolution to perform its militant tasks through any Arab land and mobilizing the Palestinian masses in a manner that serves our people's struggle for freedom, independence, and repatriation.

5. Our relationship with any Arab regime will be defined in light of its stand toward the Palestinian people's struggle, its noninterference in the internal affairs of the revolution, its respect of our national independent Palestinian decisionmaking, and its adherence to the resolutions of the Arab summits on the Palestine question.

6. Calling on the Arab countries, especially those on the confrontation lines, to unify their forces and mobilize their masses in order to confront the Israeli aggression.

7. Working toward protecting and looking after our people and their affairs wherever they live; adhering to their rights of residence, travel, work, education, good health, and security in accordance with the Arab League resolutions and world declaration on human rights; and guaranteeing the freedom of political activity as an embodiment of the fraternal Arab bonds and pan-Arab affiliation.

8. The fifth general congress of the Fatah Movement expresses its pride in, and appreciation of, the fraternal Lebanese people and affirms the importance of the militant and brotherly relations between the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples in order to continue the confrontation of the Zionist invasion for the sake of liberating the Lebanese and Palestinian territory from the Zionist Israeli occupation. The congress affirms that the Palestinian revolution shall remain a support for the Lebanese people in their struggle to achieve their national unity, preserve their independence and territorial sovereignty, and remove the Israeli occupation from their territory.

9. Stressing the special and distinguished relations linking the fraternal Palestinian and Jordanian peoples, and working toward developing them in harmony with the national interests of the two fraternal peoples. Any future relationship with Jordan must be based on a confederation between the States of Jordan and Palestine.

Third: On the international level:

1. Adhering to an effective international conference with [illegible] convened on the basis of international legitimacy under UN supervision and patronage, and with the participation of five permanent members of the Security Council and the concerned parties, including the PLO on an equal footing and with equal rights as the other sides.

2. The fifth general congress of the Fatah Movement stresses its adherence to the UN principles, charter, and resolutions which emphasized the Palestinian people's national inalienable rights and the right of all oppressed peoples under occupation to use all forms of struggle for their liberation and national independence. The congress also emphasizes its strong condemnation of all terrorist Israeli practices, which violate the principles of international law, the Geneva conventions and their appendices of 1949, the world declaration on human rights, and the UN Charter and resolutions.

3. The congress calls on the United States to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state; to abandon the policy of bias in favor of Israel; and to end its unlimited assistance to it as this would consecrate the Zionist Israeli occupation of our Palestinian territory and increase its violation of our Palestinian people's rights.

The congress calls on the United States to agree to holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East as soon as possible in accordance with the resolutions approved at the United Nations. The congress also calls on the United States to cancel all laws and legislation passed by the U.S. Congress against the PLO so that its dialogue with us will lead to positive results.

4. The congress commends the positions of support adopted by the Islamic Conference Organization, the OAU, and the Nonaligned Movement member states for the struggle of our Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO. The congress also greets the friendly countries which hastened to recognize the state of Palestine and to establish diplomatic relations with it.

5. The congress also praises the friendly relations between the PLO and the socialist countries and emphasizes the constructive stand taken by these states, headed by the USSR and the PRC, in support of our people's just struggle and our inalienable national rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of our independent state on our national soil under the leadership of the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of our Palestinian people.

6. The prominent change in the public opinion of West Europe, Japan, Canada, and Australia in favor of our Palestinian people's inalienable national rights and their just and legitimate struggle, which has developed as a result of the blessed intifadah and the impact of the PLO's the political and diplomatic activity, has created favorable circumstances for these states to step up their [illegible] support for the cause of Palestine. This was embodied in the invitation extended to brother Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, to visit France; in the Warsaw Pact statement in Bucharest; in the EEC states' declaration in Madrid; and in the upgrading of relations with the PLO in these states. The fifth general congress

of the Fatah Movement highly values these steps and calls on these states to promote these positive stands to the level of recognizing the state of Palestine.

7. The congress voices its support and backing of liberation movements in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, particularly the Namibian people's struggle under the leadership of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] and the South African people's struggle against the racist regime in Pretoria.

Committee Members' Votes Listed

JN0908175489 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1642 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The fifth general congress of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, Fatah, has unanimously elected brother leader Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] chairman of the movement's Central Committee so that he can call it into session, chair its meetings, and run its affairs. It has also elected 17 members to the Fatah Central Committee. They are:

Faruq Qaddumi—Abu-al-Lutf—974 votes;
Salah Khalaf—Abu-Iyad—921 votes;
Khalid al-Hasan—Abu-al-Sa'id—854 votes;
Intisar al-Wazir—Umm-Jihad—824 votes;
Sakhr Habash—Abu-Nizar—743 votes;
Hayil 'Abd-al-Hamid—Abu-al-Hawl—726 votes;
Muhammad Ghunaym—Abu-Mahir—643 votes;
Hani al-Hasan—Abu-Tariq—633 votes;
Subhi Abu-Karsh—Abu-al-Mundhir—626 votes;
Hakam Bal'awi—624 votes;
Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim—622 votes;
Mahmud 'Abbas—Abu Mazin—618 votes;
Ahmad Quray'—Abu-'Ala'—586 votes;
Nasr Yusuf—567 votes;
Muhammad Jihad—510 votes;
Salim al-Za'nun—Abu-al-Adib—483 votes; and
'Abbas Zaki—475 votes.

PFLP Calls For 'All Forms of Struggle'

JN0908160289 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1438 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Damascus, 9 Aug (SANA)—The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] today called for escalation of the intifadah [uprising] and for rallying potential and abilities to confront the Zionist enemy and the conspiracies to liquidate the Palestine question.

In a statement issued today on the occasion of the intifadah's 21st month, the PFLP affirmed that the Israeli enemy still adheres to its aggressive policy of [illegible]ergination, attachment, and displacement. The statement renewed the Palestinian people's rejection of Shamir's plan. It said that despite the Zionist oppression, our people remain proud and hold their heads high, crying in a loud voice: Nothing is more supreme than freedom; nothing is dearer than independence. Despite the passage of days and months, our people's will to fight does not wane, but flares up, reinforces itself, and takes root in the spirit of its sons.

The statement called for entrenching Palestinian national unity and escalating armed struggle against the Zionist enemy because this enemy will not recognize the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate and national rights if it does not suffer human, economic, and moral losses which will force it to relent.

The statement addressed itself to the Palestinian Arab people and called on them for further escalation using all forms of struggle with the stone, catapult, Molotov cocktail, and knife. This is the language the Zionists understand.

8 Aug Hostage Incident in Israel Noted

JN0908172089 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] A Palestinian fedayee named Farid 'Ali Mustafa was martyred in occupied Palestine yesterday while trying to arrest a female American conscript-volunteer in the Zionist settlement of Lotan. The Palestinian fedayee wanted to exchange her for Palestinian strugglers kept in the Zionist occupation prisons. The enemy radio, which acknowledged the incident, said the 28-year-old American conscript, named Laurie Rosen, was slightly wounded before being released. The enemy radio did not give details of the incident nor did it mention whether there were wounded or killed. However, the enemy radio said the Palestinian fedayee opened fire at a number of the occupation soldiers inside the settlement.

'Arafat To Visit Jordan for 'Important Talks'

JN1008104689 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 10 Aug 89 p 1

[Text] Amman—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat arrives in Amman in the middle of the next week on a visit of several days to Jordan during which he will hold important talks with His Majesty King Husayn and the Jordanian officials.

The talks will deal with ways to strengthen bilateral relations and coordinate all steps, especially for boosting the steadfastness of citizens in the occupied territories, including the foiling of the Israeli plot against the Jordanian dinar.

During the visit, the office of the Palestine National Fund in Amman will be opened—a step that will have a direct, positive impact on the intifadah [uprising] and on boosting the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the occupied territories.

Palestinians Polled on Al-Tarifi-Shamir Meeting

JN2907173689 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic
27 Jul 89 p 13

[Editorial Report] Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic on 27 July publishes on page 13 a 3,500-word item on undated telephone interviews conducted from Nicosia by Bassam Yunus with lawyer Jamil al-Tarifi, former deputy mayor of the West Bank city of al-Birah, who called a news conference at his home to announce that he met with Yitzhaq Shamir following persistent reports that Israel's Prime Minister conferred with unnamed Palestinian figures; and with Bassam al-Shak'ah, former mayor of Nabulus; Faysal al-Husayni, head of the Jerusalem-based Palestinian Studies Center; Mahmud Abu-al-Zuluf, chief editor of the Jerusalem Arabic-language newspaper AL-QUDS; and Radwan Abu-'Ayyash, head of the Journalists Union in the occupied territories.

Al-Tarifi tells Yunus that his meeting with the Israeli prime minister was initiated by Shamir, who wanted "to learn about the prevailing situation in the occupied territory and where the Palestinian leaders stand on the Israeli peace intiative." Al-Tarifi is quoted as telling Shamir that "in common with all peoples, we have the right to choose our own representatives, and subsequently the establishment of a state of our own." Al-Tarifi says he told Shamir, "The point of the intifadah [uprising] is to get the message across to the Israelis that we want a state of our own, but not at the expense of the State of Israel."

The four other Palestinian figures interviewed are first asked their opinion on the Shamir-Al-Tarifi meeting and whether they approve of such meetings. Al-Shak'ah comes out strongly against such contacts, "the only outcome of which will be to harm the Palestinian cause and the intifadah and give an opening for occupation to maneuver." The former Nabulus mayor adds, "The idea is to create the impression that there is one Palestinian leadership in Tunis and another the occupied territories."

Al-Husayni notes that such meetings are typically not prearranged. "One party dictates its will and terms, with the meeting taking place as a result of deception." He thinks that Palestinian figures thus forced into such meetings ought to communicate forthwith their contents to the PLO "to cut the ground from under the Israeli authorities, who seek to tell the world that meetings are taking place with Palestinian figures without the knowledge of the PLO."

Asked to comment on Al-Tarifi's meeting with Shamir, Abu-al-Zuluf says that he has not participated in such meetings, although he adds that "military force is not the only means to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, but talking and peaceful negotiations."

Radwan Abu-'Ayyash contends that such meetings are clandestine and forced upon the Palestinian interlocutor, "who, under occupation, is in no position to say no to them."

Asked about why it took Al-Tarifi 2 days to disclose his meeting with Shamir, Al-Husayni says the news conference called by the former al-Birah deputy mayor was "to refute Israeli allegations that Palestinians who get in touch with Israelis risk their lives." He thinks that "from now on, the meetings will not be clandestine, and the one quarter authorized to hold contacts is the PLO." Al-Husayni adds, "The PLO's prior approval is a sine qua non for such meetings." He argues that by arranging clandestine meetings with Palestinians in the occupied territories, Israel is out to deceive world public opinion. "In effect," adds Al-Husayni, "Israel is saying: Give me enough time and I will give you an alternative leadership to substitute the PLO."

Asked why he thought Al-Tarifi delayed his announcement on his meeting with Shamir for 2 days, Abu-al-Zuluf says the mystery and controversy surrounding the identity of those who had met with Shamir and reports that their lives were now in jeopardy made Al-Tarifi call the news conference "to prove to the Israelis that he is in no fear of his people and that he met Shamir with the knowledge of the PLO".

Abu-'Ayyash says in response to the same question that Al-Tarifi called his news conference to dispel the controversy and confusion about who conferred clandestinely with Shamir and "to refute intimations by a section of the Israeli press that Palestinians who see Israeli leaders keep the news of the meetings secret because they fear PLO 'terror' or being killed by their countrymen."

PPFS Leader on Uprising, Ties With Iran

JN0808200089 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic
7 Aug 89 p 14

[Interview with Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front (PPSF), by an unidentified correspondent in Damascus; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [AL-BAYAN] What is the view of the PPSF as regards the plan recently proposed by Yasir 'Arafat? Was this plan considered and agreed upon by Palestinian leaders?

[Ghawshah] The plan proposed by Yasir 'Arafat was discussed on many occasions in previous meetings held by Palestinian leaders. What was proposed is based on the UN resolution granting independence to Namibia—the resolution issued with the unanimous support of all permanent members of the UN Security Council. A plan was drawn up and a UN force is taking part in supervising the implementation of the aforementioned UN resolution. The plan proposed by Yasir 'Arafat calls for treating the Palestinian people as the Namibian people

were treated. In this regard, the proposed plan is acceptable to us, as it affirms the Palestinian people's rights, calls for the enemy's withdrawal, and asserts the independence of the Palestinians as well as their identity. We are not posing any problem here, as the United [National] Leadership and the Palestinian leadership stressed, in more than one statement, the need for an enemy troop withdrawl, for international supervision, and for the Palestinian people to be granted the right to define their position on self-determination through free elections. The main problem here lies with the intransigent U.S. position—a position which denies the Palestinian people's rights, including their right to self-determination. Hence, this failure to recognize our rights and this hostile stand by the United States must be confronted through a continuation and escalation of the intifadah [uprising] activities, through effecting a serious change in the balance of power, creating physical realities on the ground. It must be confronted also through mobilizing strong support for our cause on the Arab and international levels to force the United States to change its position and to make it treat the Palestinian people as any other people in the world worthy of attaining their rights, including the right to self-determination.

[AL-BAYAN] Considering what you have just said, do you find any use in the continuation of the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue?

[Ghawshah] We believe that this dialogue was imposed on the United States by the glorious Palestinian intifadah, by the continuation of the intifadah, and also by the Palestinian people's struggle. As for us, we view this dialogue as part of our struggle. In this dialogue, the United States is attempting to push the PLO toward concessions on the Palestinian people's rights, whereas the PLO is endeavoring to affirm these rights, including the right to self-determination. Hence, we are for the continuation of this dialogue while adhering to our rights and objectives and also while using this dialogue as a form of struggle designed to expose and lay bare the intransigent U.S. position.

As this dialogue is continuing, we have to know how to develop our capabilities and how to impose new physical realities on the ground in order to force the United States to recognize our people's rights, foremost among which are their rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. This is nothing new. We have to remember that the United States held a dialogue and negotiations for years with the Vietnamese revolution before the Vietnamese managed to impose their view at the negotiating table. This imposition of the Vietnamese stand was marked by a change in the nature of the struggle on the ground with the United States. Such a development, when coupled with a host of other developments, finally made the United States recognize the Vietnamese people's rights, including their right to independence.

[AL-BAYAN] How do you view the official and semiofficial meetings repeatedly held with Israeli figures, including Israeli officials?

[Ghawshah] We believe that issues must be viewed from various angles, and not from a single angle. The Palestinian intifadah has managed to create new realities and to produce repercussions on the Palestinian, Arab, and international levels. Besides, the intifadah has had repercussions within Israeli society itself. Neither the policy of starvation and stultification, nor the policy of maneuvers and political gimmicks have been effective in ending the intifadah. This placed the Israeli enemy at an impasse that led to the emergence of various different views. Some people believe that the solution lies in the total elimination [of the Palestinian people], or in expanding the deportation policy proposed by some Zionist parties. Others believe that the solution lies in tightening the ironfisted policy and increasing repressive measures. There are others who call for pursuing a policy of aborting and halting the intifadah through the Shamir plan.

However, there are some forces which have come to understand the futility of the pursuit of all of these methods and which have also realized that the Palestinian people must be dealt with as a people. Some of these forces even recognized the Palestinian people's rights, including their rights to self-determination and to establish an independent Palestinian state. We realize that there are some contacts that do not fall within this framework. However, we believe that the outcome of these contacts will be in our favor, considering the continuation of the intifadah; the continued adherence to our rights; and the willingness of parties, figures, individuals, and groups to recognize the Palestinian people's rights. We are fully aware that the various forms of struggle that we are waging will be in our favor and will lead to the attainment of our objectives. Therefore, we say that we have to effect moves and exercise all forms of political, diplomatic, military, and mass struggle. Of course, foremost among the forms of this struggle are the development and escalation of the popular intifadah, the escalation of our military operations, and our armed struggle inside and outside the homeland. This must be accompanied by political, diplomatic, and mass forms of struggle.

[AL-BAYAN] Where are Palestinian-Syrian ties now, considering that months have passed after the reconciliation between Yasir 'Arafat in Casablanca?

[Ghawshah] Our stands emanate from our conviction of the importance of rectifying Palestinian-Syrian ties in favor of the joint struggle in the face of the hostile schemes and plans. We believe that this is important and necessary. [passage omitted]

[AL-BAYAN] How true are the reports on a chill and a retreat in the Libyan Jamahiriyah's ties with the Palestinian factions and Lebanese nationalist parties, considering the suspension or freezing of financial assistance to all of them, and the repeated postponement of an important meeting between Palestinian factions and Lebanese nationalist parties on the one hand and Libyan leaders in Tripoli on the other?

[Ghawshah] When any relationship is assessed, the amount of the financial support provided or the lack of that support is not the only factor taken into account. The Libyan Jamahiriyah has been among the states which provided a great deal for the Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian revolution and the causes championed by the Lebanese nationalist parties. This support has mainly taken the form of the political position taken by Libya in support of the struggle being waged by the aforesaid parties. There might be some circumstances and some issues pertaining to some aspects of support. However, we are confident that the party which, over a 20-year period, gave all forms of political, financial, and moral support to the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist forces will inevitably continue this support. We believe that this issue will be dealt with. For our part, we do not see any jeopardizing of ties, as ties are built on political bases; and this is the important thing.

[AL-BAYAN] What is your opinion of the statement recently signed by Lebanese parties and Palestinian factions; that is, the statement known as the Tehran statement? And how are the ties between the PPSF and Iran?

[Ghawshah] In all honesty, we do not agree with this statement. We believe that we have to look for what brings us together in both the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas. We must make our decision regarding how to remedy our Palestinian national unity and how to find a practical formula for bringing about a closure of ranks among the Lebanese forces, parties, and movements. We also must have our independent decision on how to enhance the militant Lebanese-Palestinian cohesion; as this will enable us to proceed toward the establishment of relations with other parties and forces. There are issues on which we have our independent stands and views. However, we would like to say that what happened in Tehran represents and expresses the views of those who signed the statement. This statement neither reflects our policy nor our stands. We have different views and stands which we previously announced.

As for the relationship between the PPSF and Iran, we are among those who welcomed the Iranian revolution. We maintained friendly ties with Iranian parties and forces at certain phases before the toppling of the shah. Afterward, we adopted different stands on some issues, including that pertaining to the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war, the halting of which has been one of our demands since the war erupted. We had stands and conceptions conflicting with those adopted by Iran. For the time being and up to this moment, we cannot talk about the existence of any ties or the holding of meetings between the PPSF and Iran.

Algeria

Embassy Denies Arms Shipment to Mauritania

LD0908145689 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The Algerian Embassy in Dakar has published a clarification denying [words indistinct] by the Senegalese weekly SOPI of the opposition Senegalese Democratic Party [PDS]. According to these reports, Algeria and Iraq reportedly together supplied 37 tons of arms to Mauritania.

The clarification, addressed to the publication director of the newspaper in question, SOPI, observes, and I quote, that the embassy was surprised to read this article in which Algeria's name was noted in the context of serious insinuations: While being fully respectful of your organ's right to inform, the embassy deeply regrets that you have seen fit to attribute an attitude to Algeria which is quite incompatible with its wishes, which are known to the Senegalese authorities, to spare no effort to contribute to helping all brotherly and friendly countries to rapidly transcend the present difficulties in their bilateral relations and to restore relations of good-neighborliness and cooperation to which [words indistinct]. The Algerian Embassy, which deplores the fact that a serious newspaper like yours has allowed itself to incriminate Algeria so rashly, has no doubt that your readers appreciate the true worth of the fraternal calming and conciliating role Algeria has played with discretion and perseverance in this affair, as in others, which is affecting the unity of the African ranks, end quote.

That was the clarification the Algerian Embassy issued in Dakar denying the reports published on 1 August by the newspaper SOPI of the Senegalese opposition party, the PDS, and according to which Algeria and Iraq reportedly together supplied 37 tons of arms to Mauritania.

Egypt

'Abd-al-Majid Welcomes 'Arafat Reelection

NC0908110289 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1040 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—Egypt today welcomed Yasir 'Arafat's reelection as chairman of the Fatah Movement during the movement's fifth congress in Tunisia.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, told a MENA correspondent that 'Arafat's reelection was fresh evidence of the Palestinians' faith in 'Arafat's nationalist leadership and sincere efforts to arrive at a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian problem.

Paper on Fatah Congress' Rejection of Shamir Plan

NC1008100389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0608 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 10 Aug (MENA)—AL-AKHBAR newspaper has asserted that Washington cannot escape seeing the logic behind the resolution adopted by the representatives of the Palestinian people at the conclusion of the Fatah Movement's general congress in Tunis, in which the congress announced its rejection of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's plan for elections in the occupied territories.

In its editorial today, the paper points out that regardless of how the wording of Shamir's plan is manipulated, the plan cannot be accepted by anyone for, leaving aside the bizarre conditions imposed on the so-called plan by the hawks of the Likud bloc, it lacks any guarantees for free and fair elections.

The paper explains that the Shamir government's insistence on not providing any guarantees confirms that the actual aim of the ploy of alleged elections is to gain or waste time and to use it as a smokescreen to mislead world public opinion, which, the paper says, has become more aware of the facts of the Palestinian cause and of the need for the Palestinian people to recover their legitimate rights as peoples elsewhere in the world have done.

Foremost among the guarantees necessary for elections to be held, the paper notes, is the withdrawal of the occupation forces, which have been engaged in daily terrorism since the Palestinian intifadah [uprising] began and whose presence does not promote the atmosphere of freedom necessary for any elections that would be recognized by the international community. A guarantee of international control or supervision of the elections to ensure a safe electoral process and atmosphere is also necessary.

U.S. President Bush Telephones Mubarak 9 Aug

NC0908204389 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] U.S. President George Bush spoke on the telephone with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this evening. The two presidents discussed bilateral relations and exchanged views on several issues of mutual interest, including the Middle East problem.

Further on Abu-Talib's Comments on U.S. Visit

NC1008064289 Cairo MENA in English 0612 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Cairo, Aug 10 (MENA)—The three Cairo Arabic morning dailies highlighted on their front-pages this morning statements by Minister of Defense General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, at the end of his visit to the United States. Abu-Talib told reporters that he had affirmed to U.S. President George Bush that President

Husni Mubarak's declared policy is based on good neighborly ties with all countries of the area. Abu-Talib said his talks with the U.S. President covered Egypt's return to the Arab League, the revival of its leading role on the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the papers reported. The defense minister further said that he had acquainted the U.S. President with Egypt's view that peaceful solutions should be utilised in uprooting the Middle East problems in order to help establish stability in the region, the papers said. [passage omitted]

The defense and military production minister held talks with U.S. Government officials on entering into contract for the purchase of a new batch of U.S.-built F-16 warplanes, delivery schedules of U.S.-built warplanes under previously signed contracts, modernizing Egypt's naval fleet and the addition of modern units and the schedule for the joint manufacture in Egypt of the advanced version of the U.S. M-1 tank, Cairo press reported. Abu-Talib said he took-up with U.S. National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft security requirements in the Middle East and the importance of stability in the area as a decisive factor in the assurance of Egyptian national security. This, Abu-Talib said, required the existence of strong Egyptian Armed Forces capable of ensuring the defence of the homeland and ensuring deterrence. This could be achieved only by the modernization of the Armed Forces, dependence on modern technology and modernization of the Egyptian weapons industry towards achievement of self-sufficiency and alleviating the burdens borne by the state. The defense and military production minister said he found American officials understanding of the importance of stability in the Middle East. They also expressed the United States' willingness to cooperate with Egypt, the papers added. [passage omitted]

AL-AHRAM Cited on Visit

NC1008051889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 9 Aug (MENA)—AL-AHRAM has praised Egyptian-U.S. relations, which are based on complete understanding as seen by the military and economic aid the United States is providing to support the Egyptian leadership's efforts to overcome the economic problem and build a base of prosperity on firm foundations.

In its Thursday [10 August] editorial, AL-AHRAM says that Defense Minister General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib's current visit to the United States comes within the framework of strengthening these relations. The paper indicates that during this visit several facts, which can be regarded as the basic pillars of Egypt's strategy, have been emphasized.

The paper points out that as far as Egypt is concerned, the peace option is a strategic one. For this reason, the paper adds, Egypt is directing all its efforts to establishing peace and achieving development while seeking to maintain adequate and well-trained military forces, because a strong and stable Egypt is a guarantee for stability in the region by virtue of its location, role, and capabilities.

Badr Views Hulwan Iron, Steel Mill Incidents

JN0608130089 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 4 Aug 89 pp 1, 2

[By AL-WAFD Alexandria office]

[Text] Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr has said that the communists and Muslim Brotherhood are behind the incidents which recently took place in the Hulwan iron and steel mills. The interior minister added: Two communists and two Muslim Brotherhood figures instigated the mill workers, who number 30,000, to stage a sit-in. Badr affirmed that the police had in fact managed to confront and thwart this scheme.

The minister said that he will not feel easy until all extremist religious elements in Egypt are eliminated. He added that the security organs are having great difficulty in identifying these elements—as superficially these elements are no longer influential. As for the grass-roots extremist figures, it is difficult to identify them, Badr said. He swore that "God willing" he would identify and strike at them, and penetrate their organizations.

The interior minister ridiculed those who call for the implementation of ordinary laws and say that no citizen should be arrested without a warrant. Badr said that the measures being implemented are the ones deemed appropriate and necessary to safeguard the security and safety of Egypt, which is being subjected to international and domestic terrorism, not to mention the war of drugs.

In his answers to the questions posed by the students of Alexandria University, the interior minister ridiculed party leaders, focusing his ridicule on Socialist Labor Party leader Ibrahim Shukri, and accused him of certain things which AL-WAFD cannot publish. Badr also assailed Khalid Muhyi al-Din, leader of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping, and accused him of instigating the masses to celebrate the July revolution anniversary. Badr said: Khalid Muhyi al-Din is instigating workers to revolt against the regime!

Badr met yesterday with members of the Alexandria University students' club, which is under the control of the National Democratic Party [NDP]. The NDP uses this club to prepare NDP students for confronting student candidates belonging to the opposition and Islamic groups in student union elections.

AFP: Police Arrest 35 Muslim Fundamentalists

NC0908111089 Paris AFP in English 0939 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, Aug 9 (AFP)—Egyptian riot police arrested 35 Muslim fundamentalists after troubles that included the burning of an electrician's store in the Nile Delta, the daily AL-AKHBAR reported Wednesday.

Tuesday's incident in the community of al-Mahmudiyah came a month after 57 Muslim extremists were arrested in the Delta.

Before the Muslim holy month of Ramadan in April, the government arrested between one thousand and three thousand extremists.

The fundamentalists are opposed to the Western-oriented policies of President Husni Mubarak, and seek instead to install a state ruled by Islamic law, the shari'a.

In October 1981, a fundamentalist group assassinated then President Anwar al-Sadat during a military parade.

Libya

Jallud Receives USSR's Katushev in Tripoli

LD0908194789 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1820 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Tripoli, 9 Aug (JANA)—This afternoon, Staff Major 'Abd-al-Salam Ahmad Jallud received Konstantin Katushev, Soviet minister of foreign economic relations, who handed him a message from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to the brother leader of the revolution.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Somali Military Delegation

LD0908195889 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1815 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Tripoli, 9 Aug (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution today received the Somali military delegation led by Brigadier General Muslih Muhammad Siad, commander in chief of the [Sudanese] Armed Forces. The delegation comprised Commodore Sa'id 'Abdullah 'Umar, commander of the naval forces and coastal defense, and Brigadier General Ziyad Dawud, commander of the air defense forces in Somalia.

The Somali military delegation handed the brother leader a written message from President Muhammad Siad Barre of Somalia. The meeting was attended by the Somali ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah.

JANA Editor on Western 'Plot' in Lebanon

LD0408211289 Tripoli JANA in English 1448 GMT 4 Aug 89

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 4, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—In a report the Voice of American radio reported that France and the U.S. urged the Arab tripartite committee not to hold its efforts with regards to establishing peace in Lebanon.

The radio quoted the French Foreign Ministry statement saying France had decided to press ahead on the road which the tripartite special committee has begun to resolve the Lebanese problem stemming from the Arab League which had announced that its two-month diplomatic efforts had reached a blind alley.

JANA's Arab affairs editor commented at that by writing: "Imperialist and colonialist powers were originally behind the undermining of the social and political structure in Lebanon driven by the principle of divide and rule....

"There is also an imperialist-Zionist plot aimed at demolishing the social dimension and dismantle it causing a racial discriminations between religions...."

The editor explained that such a scheme had been prepared for years ago and was the cause of the tragedy the Lebanese live today, for they are fighting and fighting themselves after the hidden colonialist factions spread corruption in the area with care.... This is confirmed by the observers who follow up the secret dealings regarding the situation in Lebanon and Arab homeland. He said: "The colonial officials responsible for this tragedy must be tormented by the complex of guilt for committing such awful crime which inflicted far reaching damage upon the Lebanese Arab people and fragmented an Arab part known for its awareness, culture and historical originality...."

The editor asserted that the imperialist's power which are practicing the fragmentation of Lebanon practice in more than one spot in the world in the aim of weakening the nationalist efforts by nations and peoples to accomplish their unity and to build a national entity. He added that the Zionists' activities of sabotaging comes [words indistinct] of this question in order to realize their dream in building an entity for them from the Nile to the Euphrates of the account of the Arab nation.

He said "the public opinion today in demanded more than anytime before to stop the imperialist-Zionist interference in Lebanon and establish a humane situation based upon the respect of people's will an options."

The editor added, "The Arab people of Lebanon is particularly demanded to unite its efforts and give up all forms of split, discrimination, factionism and religious inclinations from which the enemy infiltrate."

He explained that the serious work and their public will to establish a free Jamahiri regime stemming from its national will is bound to insure ending all factional disputes and sensitivities which has been overcome and had become a behaviour an acceptable to the civilized human minds.... [sentence as received]

He added that the national will alone is capable of confronting and solving these problems without resorting to bargaining imposed by imperialists and colonialists interventions which made their destiny linked to the arena of international betting....

The editor concluded his commentary by saluting the stance of struggle of the Lebanese Arab people in its resistance to imperialist-Zionist occupation.

Sudan

Trade Union Leaders Arrested Over Weekend

AB0908104589 London BBC World Service in English 1615 GMT 9 Aug 89

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The new military regime in Sudan that seized power from Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi on June 30th is apparently not prepared to have any (?talks) with union opposition. The unions gave Al-Sadiq a lot of headaches to add to his burden to try and make peace with the SPLA [Sudan People's Liberation Army] rebels in southern Sudan. But the government of General 'Umar al-Bashir has reacted swiftly to the first sign of union opposition by arresting and detaining a number of trade union leaders at the weekend. From Khartoum, Alfred Taban telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] The arrest came a few days after a memo signed by the leaders of eight trade unions, dated 31 July, was presented to the government. At least eight union leaders have now been arrested. The memorandum called on the government to allow the unions to resume normal activities and for union assets to be unfrozen. Signatories included the leaders of the lawyers union and that of the university lecturers. They claimed that the unions should be allowed to participate in any selection of new leaders, and if this does not happen, the members are unlikely to respect such leaders. The memo also said the leaders of the trade unions have been democratically elected, and as such had the right to address their own members. The dissolution of the unions is rejected and the government is asked to remove the security personnel who have been stationed in union offices.

Brigadier 'Uthman Ahmad Hasan, a member of the ruling military council and chairman of the council's political committee, has met three union leaders to discuss the new trade union law which the Sudanese Government wants to introduce. The government appeared eager to be on friendly terms with the unions. [end recording]

Security Forces Find Weapons Near Khartoum

NC1008083889 Cairo MENA in English 0821 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Aug. 10 (MENA)—The Sudanese security authorities discovered large quantities of weapons loaded in a number of vehicles stationed in the vicinity of Khartoum's southern entrance, and the cars which had been left by their drivers in the open space had been driven to a police station, "AL-ITTIHAD" newspaper reported today.

Police sources in the Sudanese capital confirmed the news to the newspaper but declined to offer any details concerning the amount of the weapons or the party that may possibly be behind their movement, and only said the matter was being investigated.

Al-Bashir Receives Message From Egypt's Mubarak

NC1008102889 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0931 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Aug (MENA)—Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, leader of the Sudanese national salvation revolution, has received a written message from President Husni Mubarak dealing with issues of common interest to the two countries.

Muhammad Taqiy al-Din al-Shirbini, Egypt's ambassador in Khartoum, conveyed the message when he met with Lt Gen al-Bashir in the presidential palace last night.

The meeting comes within the framework of President Mubarak's efforts to resolve Africa's problems after his election as OAU chairman.

They also discussed coordination between the two countries to prepare for the nonaligned summit, due to open on 1 September.

Bahrain

Foreign Minister Interviewed on Washington Talks

PM0808103689 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 5 Aug 89 p 5

[Report on interview with Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak Al Khalifah by Muhammad Sadiq in Washington; date not given]

[Excerpts] Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak Al Khalifah has concluded an official visit to Washington lasting a few days, during which he met with President George Bush, the U.S. secretaries of state and defense, as well as a number of congressmen and congressional committee leaders. He discussed several topics with them, focusing on bilateral relations between the two countries and other issues in the region. [passage omitted]

At the beginning of his interview with AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Shaykh Muhammad specified the objectives of his visit and the results of his talks with senior officials. He said: This visit takes place with the framework of an exchange of views on matters of common concern between the two countries—the United States and Bahrain—especially since the United States is now under new leadership and a new administration. So I found it appropriate to talk with officials at the highest levels.

He said that he conveyed a written message from the country's amir, Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, to President George Bush within that framework—that of conducting consultations, working to strengthen relations between the two countries, and seeking better ways of strengthening relations. [passage omitted]

On the important issues which he discussed with President Bush and the secretaries of state and defense, Shaykh Muhammad said: Bahrain has always been preoccupied with the issues that concern Bahrain first, in addition to the issues concerning the Arab homeland.

With regard to Bahrain, what concerns us is the development of economic relations, especially in the fields of trade, industry, and technological exchange. This, because Bahrain is a developing country, and I believe that interstate relations should produce results not only in the political field but also in the economic field. [passage omitted]

He added: With regard to the political field, as I said, the talks held during the visit dealt with coordination of positions between the two friendly countries. This, in addition to Arab and Gulf issues—especially that of the Iraq-Iran war. I pointed out to U.S. officials that we in the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] states attach great importance to the issue of ending the Iraq-Iran war and establishing peace in the region, because that war threatens pan-Arab security.

Iran's acceptance of last year's Security Council Resolution 598 on a cease-fire, a halt to the war, and the deployment of UN observers was a good thing, but we are working to implement the resolution, end the war, and establish peace.

We, together with the world's states, are working for the implementation of the resolution, which concerns us all. And we hope that matters will move in that direction so that peace will prevail in the region.

Asked whether he found any response from U.S. officials with regard to ending the war, and whether they have anything new in that regard, Minister Muhammad said: I would like to say that the United States expressed complete willingness to exert its efforts and endeavors to implement the Security Council resolution. [passage omitted]

Asked whether President Bush raised with him the hostage crisis issue with which the entire administration is preoccupied, Shaykh Muhammad said: Of course, as you know, Washington is living in an atmosphere dominated by the hostage issue as the topic of the moment, especially after the announcement of the execution of officer Higgins who, I believe, was not only an American, but an international man, insofar as he represented the United Nations and all the world's states. So that act against him has received total condemnation by all states, especially the Arab states.

He said: That issue dominated the talks, and President Bush raised it and devoted great attention to it. I explained to him that we, and all the Arab states, reject and condemn terrorism, and have confirmed this at all our Arab ministerial and summit conferences. I told the President that we reject terrorism and its inhuman methods. [passage omitted]

Asked whether President Bush sought Bahrain's assistance in resolving the crisis, Shaykh Muhammad Al Khalifah said: President Bush asked Bahrain and all world leaders, whom he contacted personally, to work consistently and to make efforts to prevent those holding the other hostages from carrying out their murder threats.

He added: We also emphasized that we condemn Israel's kidnapping of a Lebanese citizen in such a way, and that it was Israel which caused such an explosive situation. It acted in such a way as to render the situation explosive and led the world to a crisis. He said: Terror issues cannot be dealt with by terror. [passage omitted]

Asked whether he discussed the situation and the crisis in Lebanon during his visit and meetings with Bush and other senior officials, he said: The Lebanese issue is undoubtedly a fundamental one. We raised and discussed the issue with all the officials with whom I met. We found that we have a responsibility for restoring security and stability in Lebanon. As for working methods, they consist of support for the tripartite committee and for the efforts of the Arab League and United Nations, and implementation of the resolutions on the Israeli withdrawal and the evacuation of the Israeli forces from South Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Jordanian Prime Minister Delivers King's Message

LD0808120489 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Excerpts] His highness the amir received at 1115 this morning His Excellency al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir, prime minister of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Shakir was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim.

The Joranian prime minister handed the amir a message from his brother, His Majesty King Husayn Ibn-Talal.

The audience was attended by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir acting prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; Jordan's ambassador to Kuwait; and the Kuwaiti ambassador in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. [passage omitted]

Talks between Kuwait and the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan took place at 1130 this morning in the office of his highness the heir apparent and prime minister in Bayan Palace. The Kuwaiti side was headed by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, acting prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and the Jordanian side was headed by Al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir, the prime minister. [passage omitted]

The talks addressed the strong brotherly relations between the State of Kuwait and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and ways of strengthening these relations in various fields. The talks also addressed the issues of our Arab motherland and other topics of mutual interest.

The acting prime minister and minister of foreign affairs will host a dinner this evening in honor of the guest.

Meets Amir, Foreign Minister

JN0808114689 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Text] The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, today received Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir. During the meeting, the prime minister conveyed to the Kuwaiti ruler a message from his majesty the king. The meeting was attended by the Foreign Minister Mr Marwan al-Qasim and Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as well as Jordan's ambassador to Kuwait and the Kuwaiti ambassador in Amman.

Meanwhile, talks were held at the al-Bayan Palace before noon today betweeen the Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir and the Kuwaiti Deputy Primier Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir. The talks, attended by officials from both sides, tackled bilateral ties and ways to promote cooperation in various fields. The talks also dealt with regional issues and topics of mutual concern. The prime minister arrived in Kuwait early today on a brief working visit.

Oil Minister Justifies Cost of Tanker Reflagging

LD0808103489 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0844 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 8 Aug (KUNA)—Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi said in an interview published here today that Kuwait will build a gigantic petrochemical complex to increase manufacturing and Kuwaiti industrial exports. [passage omitted]

In an interview with the Kuwaiti daily AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM the oil minister said Kuwait has reduced its oil production by 400,000-450,000 barrels [per day] in order to reach the level it promised not to exceed—1.35 billion barrels per day. The minister expects oil prices to stay at their current levels—$15-18 per barrel—until the end of the year. [passage omitted]

Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-'Adhbi confirmed reports that Kuwait intends to introduce the element of competition to gas stations, saying that competition constitutes the basic incentive for the development of any sector. He said that the idea is being studied although we are enthusiastic about it. [passage omitted]

Regarding the Q8 company's plans to distribute petroleum byproducts in Europe, the minister said that we will open stations to distribute petroleum byproducts in the markets of other states following the success in a number of West European states.

The minister strongly denied reports that Kuwait had sustained more losses as a result of reflagging its tankers with the major countries than it sustained from the tanker war. He said that we studied the matter considering all the commercial details and found that the cost of reflagging our tankers with other countries was in fact less than the losses sustained as a result of the tanker war at that time in the Arabian Gulf.

PDRY

Council of Ministers Meets, Discusses Reform

EA0908073089 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Text] The Council of Ministers met this morning under the chairmanship of Brother Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and discussed a number of issues and reports included on its agenda. The council discussed the basic trends of the comprehensive political and economic reform plan and the part the council would play in this respect as the supreme executive and administrative body of state authority.

Proceeding from the essential need for political and economic reform, to rectify the mistakes which accompanied the construction of the authorities and various organizations and instruments over the past 2 decades and also the interrelationships within the political system on the basis of the Constitution and the various forms of legislation and the party documents, particularly the general party conference resolutions which the council translated into a plan of preliminary measures in mid-1987, the Council of Ministers stressed the importance of strengthening and maintaining its role: to enable it to perform the task of political and economic reform, bearing in mind current local conditions and the changes in the Arab region and in the international arena generally, and with the aim of accelerating the process of social development on the basis of the national democracy of the Yemeni revolution.

The Council of Ministers also stressed the importance of reforming the administrative organs to make them more effective in carrying out their responsibilities and in realizing the current aims of economic and social construction.

The council stressed the need to listen to the comments and views of the workers, with regard to the proposed measures of bringing about reform in their respective sectors and to draw from them all that might enrich the draft document on the basic trends of political and economic reform.

During its study of the council's (?report) on the role of economic and political reform and the role, in terms of reform, of the trade unions and mass organizations in implementing direct measures aimed at improving the standard of living of the masses, the council stressed the need for democracy to become one of the chief elements that the reform aims to reinforce in the life of the masses as the basis for reformulating the laws, statutes, and legislation in such a way as to embody a conscious will and enable the masses to exercise their effective role in directing the authority of the state.

The Council of Ministers heard a report on the visit by the brother prime minister and his accompanying delegation to the sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and his talks with the brother officials in the Kingdom's leadership, as well as his meeting with Yemeni expatriates in Saudi Arabia. The council lauded the positive results of this visit in terms of strengthening the relations between the two sisterly countries and also of consolidating the links of the Yemeni expatriates with their homeland, thus facilitating their participation in the construction of a new life within it.

The council also heard a report on the visit of the deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and interior minister to the Iraqi Republic and the GDR. The council expressed appreciation at the development of bilateral relations between our country and Iraq and Democratic Germany respectively.

Qatar

Jordan's Ibn-Shakir Arrives in Doha 9 Aug

JN0908100589 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Jordanian Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir arrived in Doha today on a short working visit to Qatar within the framework of a tour of a number of the region's states.

The Jordanian prime minister is scheduled to hold talks with senior Qatari officials on the current Arab situation and relations between the two countries.

Delivers King's Message to Amir

JN0908122889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Doha—His Highness Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from His Majesty King Husayn delivered by Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir when his highness received him this morning. The meeting was attended by Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Jordanian ambassador to Qatar. The meeting was also attended by His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn-Khalifah Al Thani, the heir apparent and defense minister, Minister of Amiri Court Affairs 'Isa Ghanim al-Kuwari, Foreign Minister 'Abdallah Khalifah al-'Atiyah, and the Qatari ambassador in Amman.

The two sides held a round of talks today at the Amiri Court in Doha. The Jordanian side was headed by Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir and the Qatari side by Shaykh Hamad Ibn-Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister. The talks centered on bilateral relations between the two sides, means of bolstering them, Arab and Islamic developments especially those concerning the Palestine question, the Middle East crisis, and contacts and efforts exerted on all levels to reach

a just, comprehensive, and permanent solution through an international peace conference guaranteeing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Jordanian ambassador to Qatar. On the Qatari side, they were attended by Foreign Minister 'Abdallah Ibn-Khalifah, and the Qatari ambassador in Amman.

His highness the heir apparent gave a dinner banquet today at the guest palace in honor of the prime minister with the attendence of the accompanying delegation and a number of ranking Qatari officials. [passage omitted]

Departs 9 Aug

JN0908164889 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1415 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Doha, 9 Aug (WAKH)—Jordanian Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir and his delegation left Doha this afternoon following a brief visit to the State of Qatar during which he conveyed a message from King Husayn of Jordan to His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Hamad Al Thani, amir of the State of Qatar, on the latest developments in the Arab arena and the contacts and efforts to find a just, durable, and comprehensive solution to the Palestine question.

Al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir also held talks with His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, on the Lebanese crisis and the latest developments of this crisis in light of the report issued in this regard by the Arab tripartite committee. They also discussed bilateral relations.

The Jordanian prime minister was seen off upon departure by His Highness Shaykh Hamad Ibn-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, and a number of cabinet ministers.

Saudi Arabia

Printing Technology Agreement Signed With Taiwan

OW0908064589 Taipei CNA in English 0336 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Riyadh, Aug. 8 (CNA)—The Republic of China [ROC] Engraving and Printing Works Wednesday signed a technical cooperation contract with the Government Security Printing Press of the Saudi Ministry of Finance and National Economy.

Dr Wu Shao-chi, general manager of the ROC Engraving and Printing Works, and Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Abdul 'Ali, assistant deputy minister of finance and national economy, Tuesday signed the contract at King Faysal Hall in Riyadh in the presence of ROC Ambassador Edward Kuan and other senior officials of the two countries.

The Chinese side will send 48 engineers and technicians to help operate and maintain the equipment of the Saudi Government Security Printing Press in Riyadh.

The duration of the contract is two years, with a total amount of 11.7 million Saudi riyals (equivalent to $3.12 million).

The two sides signed their first cooperation contract in 1983, and renewed it every two years. Wednesday's signing was the fourth, to cover their cooperation up to 1991.

After the signing ceremony, Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman said he was pleased and satisfied with the performance of the Chinese specialists during the past six years of cooperation.

He expressed hope that the Chinese would complete the transfer of technology to the Saudis in the near future.

Dr Wu said his company would be glad to do it as soon as possible, adding that the Saudis could learn the printing skills from their Chinese counterparts working at the Government Security Printing Press in Riyadh.

As for the skills of design and engraving, Wu said, the Saudis could select and send some people with basic knowledge and background to Taipei for specialized training.

Information Minister Views 11 Aug ACC Meetings

JN0908163689 Baghdad INA in English 1500 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Baghdad, Aug. 9, INA—Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) information and culture ministers hold their two-day first meeting in Baghdad on August 11.

Iraqi Minister of Culture and Information Latif Nusayyif Jasim said in a statement to INA today that the meeting would discuss drawing up an information and cultural unified strategy for the ACC states of Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and Yemen Arab Republic.

The minister added that among the topics to be discussed by the ministers were working papers that had been exchanged among the four countries in preparation to finalize a formula for a draft agreement on joint cultural and information cooperation.

The papers include bases and formulas on cooperation and coordination of stances and opinions in international conferences in the way serving the Arab nations goals and civilization existence.

They will also discuss in [as received] fields of coordination, exchange of expertise, radio and T.V. cooperation.

The ministers will also discuss means of activating work between Iraqi, Egyptian, Yemeni and Jordanian news agencies in a way leading to expanding exchange of news and reports and giving special importance to news of the council's states in addition to consolidating professional and technical cooperation between the agencies bureaux and correspondents abroad and providing possible press and technical facilities.

In their meeting, the ministers will give a particular significance to cultural and information work of the council's states on the international arena in a manner leading to ccoordinating and unifying stances at conferences and symposiums and implementing information and cultural activities in world countries.

Ministers of culture and information of the ACC states will discuss a project on joint publication, exchange of publication and distribution and exchange of archaeological expeditions and teams for archaeological maintainance, excavations and survey and museums besides exchanging publications, manuscripts and documents, holding joint exhibitions and expanding cooperation in theatrical and cinema production.

Mr. Latif Nusayyif Jasim pointed out that coordination was actually existent in the subjects referred to earlier but the coming stage necessitated more cooperation and coordination among cultural and information institutions in the four countries in realization of objectives of the ACC.

The Iraqi minister concluded his statement by saying that meeting of the ACC culture and information ministers on Friday acquired particular significance for it will crystalize new working formula aiming at interaction and increase of coordination in service of tasks of the coming stage and march of the council.

Minister on Strategic Importance of Al-'Aqabah

JN0908164089 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 8 Aug 89 p 8

[By Rashid Khashanah]

[Excerpts] Tunis—Iraqi Transport and Communications Minister Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi has affirmed that his ministry is now studying offers to purchase four ships of 15,000 tonnes load capacity each. He added that these offers were presented to the ministry in July. He said that competent committees are now studying the offers. In a statement to AL-WATAN in Tunis at the conclusion of the meetings of the Arab transport ministers' executive bureau, the Iraqi minister said that in accordance with the plan laid down by the Iraqi Government in the wake of the cease-fire to use rivers for transportation—so that transportation will pass from the al-Kawn River to Baghdad via the Tigris River—Khawr al-Zubayr will be directly linked with Umm Qasr ports. [passage omitted]

Answering a question on the possibility of transferring the cargo ships' movement from Jordanian to Iraqi ports after modernizing and expanding the Iraqi ports, Al-Zubaydi said: "We will not abandon the Jordanian port because we consider it strategic despite the fact that the majority of commodities reach Baghdad via Iraqi ports." He added: "The other strategic issue that calls for safeguarding the role of al-'Aqabah port is that the size of exports and imports will increase. Although our ports will have the capacity to receive 14 million tonnes next year, our needs—particularly since we are in a stage of a large-scale construction—will largely increase." [passage omitted]

Shamir Terms Labor Decisions 'Bribes'

TA0908152589 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said the resolutions adopted yesterday by the Labor Party Central Committee contradict the government's decision. Shamir made these remarks at a meeting of Likud ministers today. He asserted that Labor had used presents and bribes, and that the Likud must now convince the people that the only way to peace is that of the Likud. Shamir added that the Labor Party Central Committee decisions have something in common with the resolutions adopted in the Fatah convention: None of them will ever be implemented. Deputy Prime Minister David Levi said that the Alignment's decisions had weakened Israel's resistance.

Shamir, Levi Critical of Labor

TA1008085889 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Aug 89 p A6

[Report by Menahem Rahat]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday sharply attacked the counterbraces adopted as resolutions by the Labor Party Central Committee. Shamir said that the common ground between these and the Fatah resolutions, which were also published yesterday, is that neither will come to pass.

In the weekly meeting of the Likud ministers, which was devoted to a political debate, the prime minister said: "Despite all the differences between these two bodies, their equal side is that the resolutions of neither will be implemented. Both packages will remain on paper only." Shamir defined the Alignment resolutions as a total deviation from the cabinet's decisions: The Labor people introduced things which are not included in the initiative, such as the participation of East Jerusalem Arabs in the elections, the participation of people from outside Eretz Yisra'el in the negotiations, and the principle of territories for peace."

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi said in the same forum that the Labor resolutions stand in contravention of the government stance and weaken Israel's position. He added that the resolutions are a deliberate act aiming to annoy, and that it exposes the Labor Party's true face.

Levi said, "If the Labor Party agrees in advance to allow East Jerusalem Arabs to vote and to elect; cedes the territories a priori; advocates a democratic Jewish state in merely a part of Eretz Yisra'el; and consents to the presence of observers at the elections—what is there to negotiate after that?"

[Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 10 August in a page 2 report by Ilan Kfir, London-based correspondent Yaron Fried, and New York-based correspondent Ya'aqov Eylon, states: "HADASHOT has learned that the prime minister constantly briefs his deputy, David Levi, on moves in the sphere of politics and defense, including issues which are not reported to other Inner Cabinet ministers."]

On Monday the Labor Party Central Committee passed a 13th brace, the content of which was read out to the members but which was mistakenly omitted from the final document. The 13th brace states: "The Central Committee urges any minister who acts against the government resolutions with regard to the government's original peace initiative to draw personal conclusions."

This brace, which is not attached to any sanctions and is therefore a mere recommendation, was added to the 12 braces on the request of Labor's Young Generation—a group of youths aged 16 to 18, who identify with the Labor Party's political and social line. Although the group is not a youth movement, it is organized by the party's youth branch.

The adoption of resolutions defined as the Labor's braces was preceded by heated discussions between the party's doves and hawks, mainly on the issue of East Jerusalem Arabs' voting rights.

Hizballah Demand for 'Ubayd Release Rejected

JN0908183289 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1430 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Uri Lubrani, coordinator of Lebanese affairs at the Defense Ministry, has said that Israel will not release Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd—under any circumstances—before embarking on negotiations to release the prisoners and hostages. This came in an exclusive statement to our correspondent (Yig'al Kenick).

In this statement, Uri Lubrani reacted to Hizballah's demand that Israel should release Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd, who was placed under arrest in Israel 2 weeks ago, before embarking on negotiations on the exchange of prisoners with Israel. Lubrani affirmed that Israel strongly rejects this demand and that Israel insists that categorical evidence must be available first showing that all Israeli prisoners and missing personnel are in a good condition. Only after this, will it be possible to embark on negotiations on the exchange of hostages and prisoners.

Uri Lubrani noted that Israel cannot—in any case whatsoever—respond to this request by the Hizballah organization. Lubrani affirmed that Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday explained clearly that Israel insists that the International Commission of the Red Cross [ICRC] should provide Israel with evidence through its contacts with Hizballah proving that all Israeli prisoners and missing personnel are in a good shape, and then, negotiations on the exchange of prisoners will begin. Lubrani said that the ICRC is the only party that can mediate in such negotiations.

When asked, Lubrani affirmed that according to information he has, no negotiations or preliminary contacts have begun yet to exchange the prisoners. [passage omitted]

Shamir, Bush Discuss Hostages

TA0908184589 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir spoke on the telephone with U.S. President George Bush this evening. The two men discussed the hostage issue and other subjects. The conversation was conducted in a very friendly atmosphere, and the two leaders decided to maintain contact whenever necessary.

Release of All Hostages Demanded

TA0908192589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] U.S. President George Bush and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir spoke on the telephone for about 10 minutes approximately 1 hour ago.

Sources in the Prime Minister's Office told our political correspondent Arye Golan that the conversation was very good and very friendly. Most of it was devoted to the hostage issue in a bid to achieve a closer degree of coordination between the two countries in dealing with the crisis, and in handling the efforts to release the hostages. This was why the prime minister called the U.S. President. The two leaders agreed that everything must be done to release the hostages. Mr Shamir told President Bush that Israel demands the release of all the prisoners and hostages.

Institute Uncertain on Higgins' Time of Death

TA0908163989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The videocassette showing the body of Colonel Higgins was reviewed in the Israeli Forensic Institute in Tel Aviv, which was unable to reach a conclusive opinion on the U.S. officer's time of death. Our political correspondent Arye Golan says that the Forensic Institute's report was submitted to Foreign Minister Arens today. It said that the body may have been hanged some time after the execution purely for the videorecording session. Dr (Heath), who checked the video, also stated that several items in the video, such as the pressed slacks, the windbreaker, and the crew cut, may indicate that the person who was taped was killed a short time after his kidnapping many months ago.

Our correspondent points out that no one in Israel tried to identify the body for identification purposes, but to determine the time of death only.

'Terrorists' Encouraged by U.S.-PLO Dialogue

TA0908173889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has attacked yesterday's resolution of the Labor Party Central Committee on the elections in the territories. Shamir told the weekly meeting of the Likud cabinet ministers that Labor's resolution deviates from the government's decisions. Jack Katzenell reports:

The Prime Minister said Labor's resolutions put things into the government's peace initiative that were never there—such as permitting East Jerusalem Arabs to participate in the elections, allowing Palestinians living abroad to take part in the negotiations, and the principle of territory in exchange for peace. The government has a clear line, Shamir said, and that is: So long as there is no Arab response to all the principles of the initiative, we do not go into details. And now the Labor Party is handing out baksheesh, Shamir said.

With all the differences between the Labor Party and Fatah, the prime minister said, they have one thing in common: Neither the resolutions of one, nor those of the other, will be carried out.

Commenting on the developments of the Fatah conference in Tunis, Shamir said that the organization is becoming more extremist. It is the dialogue between the United States and the PLO which is giving the terrorists the courage to step up their attacks on Israel, Shamir said, without fear that the dialogue will be broken off or that they will be condemned.

Sabotage of U.S.-PLO Hostage Agreement Denied

TA1008104189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] The Kuwaiti paper AL-SIYASAH contends that Israel kidnapped Shaykh 'Ubayd to sabotage an agreement which had been emerging between the PLO and the United States on the release of the U.S. hostages in Lebanon. The release of the hostages would have brought the White House to grant an audience to Yasir 'Arafat.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem has described the report as utter nonsense. Political circles in Jerusalem believe that the report is tendentious and designed to promote the PLO's public relations.

Editorial Urges More Action Against Hizballah

TA0408113489 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Aug 89 p E1

[Editorial: "'Ubayd's Capture—Good Idea, Excellent Implementation; Let Us See More of the Same"]

[Text] The fact that critics of Shaykh 'Ubayd's actual capture were to be found in Israel is even more amazing than the success of this sophisticated, precise, and efficient operation. If Julius Irving came to be known as Dr

J by virtue of his gentle and elegant handling of the basketball, then the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] demonstrated similar expertise in the capture of 'Ubayd, who is a professor of guerrilla warfare.

The defense minister does not require lengthy explanations. Even if Israel had not already exhausted all possible options (running the gamut from threats and proposals for prisoner exchange, all the way to bribery), the capture of Shaykh 'Ubayd—considering the way it was effected—could only constitute a special achievement.

There are people who can only understand their own language. As for Hizballah, we still have to wait and see if they are even capable of understanding the language of force, threats, kidnappings, and executions they have perfected over recent years, just because no one tried to handle them the right way. Even before 'Ubayd's abduction they had not released any hostages. And if various reports collected over the past few months are true, then Hizballah also murdered some of them—Colonel Higgins for example—before the IDF operation in Jibshit.

If 'Ubayd's capture does not lead to the desired results within a short time, Israel should continue acting in two parallel routes: It should capture more of these clients; and at the same time initiate legal action against the shaykh, making it clear to him that if convicted, he will be sentenced to death. The date of the execution will be determined according to developments in the field.

The U.S. assault on Israel—led by Senator Robert Dole, the leader of the Republican minority in the Senate, which has since quietly died down—caused immediate repercussions in our tiny country. There are always those who will jump on the Washington bandwagon—even if it is completely off the mark.

Those two respectable gentlemen, Bush and Baker—who are not Reagan and Shultz—discovered to their surprise that running the U.S. Administration is not like summer camp. The Hizballah is not another Dukakis who can be destroyed by a dirty election campaign. Public relations and polished speeches are not enough. The Americans have a problem: They have too much power and they are too far away. The flexibility they tried to achieve by setting up special forces units is still not in evidence, and so far these forces have only failed.

But even a situation so desperate—when the United States' only option is to launch a massive strike at those not directly responsible for this terror—does not mean that the United States should not watch its mouth. Whoever said that blaming Israel for Higgins' death was like accusing Churchill of causing the holocaust because of his defiance of Hitler was right.

The Hizballah gunmen deserve to die for their deeds, and if they were not holding hostages, no one would hesitate to kill them on the spot. But if they can kidnap and kill—so can others; and if this affects their leaders, like Shaykh 'Ubayd—it will be effective. We hope that the next in line has already been located and that he will be captured shortly. The more the better.

AL-FAJR on U.S. Meetings With Palestinians

TA0808161689 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 7 Aug 89 p 4

[Editorial "Meetings Are Too Many Without Real Results"]

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly arrived in Israel this week for talks with Israeli Government officials and Palestinians from the occupied territories. This is Kelly's first visit to this area in his present official capacity.

While Kelly is here to hear Israeli and Palestinian views on the Israeli proposal for elections, his visit comes in light of a growing number of similar meetings American officials are conducting here on the lingering Palestinian-Israeli conflict. U.S. Ambassador to Israel William Brown recently visited the Gaza Strip where he met with Palestinians to hear their views on the election proposal. The U.S. consul general in Jerusalem, Philip Wilcox, held similar meetings with other Palestinian personalities from the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

Following this line of U.S. approach to dealing with this conflict, Kelly met on Thursday [3 August] with a group of Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. In this meeting, the Palestinians handed Kelly a memorandum expressing their feelings on the political process and recent developments. In that memorandum, the Palestinians made it clear that they are part and parcel of the Palestinian people everywhere and that the Palestinian cause cannot be divided into portions.

This Palestinian stand has not changed over the years and will never change. No people will accept to be divided or have their fate resolved in small portions. Kelly and his bosses in Washington should have known this fact before embarking on this mission. Their predecessors did the same thing and never got anywhere; so why should this new administration expect a different Palestinian reaction?

These meetings, like many other earlier meetings, are getting to be a waste of time. The U.S. Administration knows exactly what Palestinians here think and what they want. So why doesn't it deal with the facts the way they are?

Apparently the U.S. is playing Israel's role in stalling for time. Through these meetings, it is attempting to give the impression that it is involved in the peace process and that something is being done. Meanwhile, the Palestinian people keep feeling betrayed when they see that

nothing is coming out of all these meetings or from the PLO's constant drive for a settlement as it hit a brick wall put up by Israeli intransigence and U.S. apathy to this intransigence.

We know that finding a settlement to this conflict is not an easy job. We are realistic enough to know that the struggle for liberation and freedom is a hard and long one. We also know when and if there is an honest drive for a peace settlement. At the moment, we do not feel the U.S. is doing enough. There is great opportunity at the moment to bring this conflict to an end. This opportunity was put there by Palestinian flexibility and realism. As the Palestinians are at the core of the conflict, the opportunity created by them is certainly an extremely valuable one that should not be wasted.

If Israel is not willing to make use of this situation, then there is no reason why the U.S. should not. It can start by appreciating the Palestinian efforts for a settlement and respond with equal enthusiasm, rather than stalling. It can also let Israel know that it cannot go on without proposing a reasonable solution. It only takes Israel to bend a little to get some kind of peace process going. The U.S. can certainly help in this.

Editorial on Al-Tarafi's Talks With Shamir

NC0908212089 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 31 Jul 89 p 4

[Editorial: "Seeing Things as They Are"]

[Text] Jamil al-Tarifi, a Palestinian from al-Birah and former deputy mayor, revealed this week the content of his talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Al-Tarifi said he went public with the talks because he did not feel such a meeting, in which Israeli officials were testing Palestinian feelings about the latter's destiny, should be kept secret. He said the Palestinian people have the right to know what was being said about them and planned for their future.

Meanwhile, Shamir is saying that he will continue to hold secret talks with Palestinians from the occupied territories in his effort to find a Palestinian representation with which he will negotiate a settlement to the Palestinian question.

Al-Tarifi went public with the talks after the PLO named four people it said met with Shamir with its knowledge and that it was aware of the entire conversation that went on between them. It did this to let Israel know that no credible Palestinian from the occupied territories is willing to negotiate with Israel in secret, as Shamir wishes, and that no one is willing to override the earned PLO representation of the Palestinian people everywhere. Al-Tarifi agrees with this stand.

Therefore the issue is clear here. The Palestinians in the occupied territories are saying that they are not ready at any time to establish an alternative representation to the PLO or discuss the future status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip without including Palestinians in the diaspora as well. At the same time, they are saying they are ready to talk to anyone who is willing to listen to their claims.

Talking to Shamir should not be construed as willingness to form an alternative local leadership. Whoever holds such a perception is obviously not in touch with reality. Even if elections are held and a local Palestinian council is formed, this does not mean that the Palestinian question has been divided into two parts. When Palestinians discuss the status of the occupied territories, they are looking at this as a first stage in reaching an overall settlement for the entire Palestinian issue, particularly sovereignty over the land and the right of every Palestinian anywhere to be able to come back and live on this sovereign land.

The PLO has so far done what it can to accelerate the peace process and get some kind of Palestinian-Israeli negotiations going. It reacted positively to international wishes concerning the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. It even showed a great deal of flexibility on parsimonious Israeli initiatives.

Yet, and in spite of all this, Israel and its supporters in the international community are still asking for more without being willing to give anything in return. They are not willing to accept the facts as they develop but rather pursue an unrealistic dream that will not solve the Palestinian question.

Shamir and his cabinet members need to take into consideration the well-being of their people and acknowledge the right of the Palestinian people for independence and statehood so that this conflict will finally come to an end. They should stop following a mirage and rather look at reality and deal with it in a courageous and honest manner.

Ministers Issue Document Restricting Statements

TA0908114389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Report by political correspondent Arye Golan]

[Text] So far, only some of the ministers have received the document bearing the title "Work Regulation." Its distribution was initiated by the forum of four: the prime minister, vice prime minister, and the defense and foreign ministers. The ministers are requested to abstain from making statements regarding the hostage issue, the Hizballah communiques, and the interrogation of Shaykh 'Ubayd who is held by us. The document further states: Any statements on new developments, mainly on the reactions of countries or terrorist organizations, pertaining to the possibility of negotiations, will be made by the prime minister, the vice prime minister, the defense minister, and the Foreign Ministry only. The publication of such statements will be carried out by the Foreign Ministry and the representations abroad, and by the Defense Ministry through the local media and the

foreign reporters stationed in Israel. Israeli envoys abroad will request permission from the foreign minister's bureau to issue reactions.

We were told today by the cabinet secretariat that the document is a repetition of an existing regulation which was adapted to the circumstances. The ministers are reminded of the regulation in view of the numerous reactions which appeared in the American media over the last weekend.

Monthly Draft 'Largest' in IDF History

TA0408094989 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 Aug 89 p 2

[Report by military correspondent]

[Text] The number of new NAHAL [para-military settlement unit] recruits has dropped by 34 percent since 1983. This figure was given by the commander of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] recruitment center. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was a guest at the IDF's induction center and watched firsthand the teenagers recruited in August, which is the largest draft in IDF history. The defense minister was accompanied by Major General Ran Goren, chief of Manpower Branch.

The defense minister was shown impressive statistics on the level of motivation and volunteering for combat units. For instance, of every four soldiers who volunteer and are found suited for the paratroopers, only one is accepted. Some 90 percent of the soldiers serving in the Golani Brigade were recruited into the unit at their own request. This year's draft also has a peak number of several hundred religious seminary students.

Colonel Micki, the commander of the induction center, said the initial impression from the August draft was that there was a slight drop in the numbers wishing to serve in the Giv'ati Brigade in the wake of the negative publicity it has been receiving. Manpower Branch's deputy commander denied that.

Minister Rabin also visited the recruitment center where civilians are turned into soldiers, and at a site near the induction center where soldiers are tested for the paratroopers.

"I believe that the basic motivation of the young generation to serve in the combat units and to go on to become officers is constantly increasing," the defense minister said.

Minister Rabin, who referred to the significant improvement in the quality of the new recruits, added that in his view "the increase in the present draft will make the IDF the best army around and enable it to make best use of the manpower at its service."

New AEW Aircraft Under Development

TA1008063789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Aug 89 p 7

[Text] The Phalcon, a new generation AEW (airborne early warning) aircraft is currently under development by the Elta electronics division of Israel Aircraft Industries. It is a follow-on to the E-2C Hawkeye (currently in service in the Israel Air Force) aircraft.

Elta's new system is a solid state L-band radar with conformal phased spray antennas mounted on the proven Boeing 707 airframe. Very high reliability is realized because the system has no rotodome, no rotary coupler and no moving parts. In addition to its radar capability, the Phalcon offers a full range of electronic warfare sensors.

Police Make 'Largest Heroin Seizure Ever'

TA0508075989

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 3 August, in a page A10 report by Ben Kaspit, said that "Central District police detained 30-year-old Charlie Maman and 25-year-old Yitzhaq Asraf from Kefar Sava on drug dealing charges." Maman was seen discarding an object into the toilet and flushing it. "After filtering the sewage system, a parcel containing approximately 300 units of heroin was discovered."

Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1130 GMT on 3 August reports that "last night the police made the largest heroin seizure ever in Israel: 21 kg were seized at the Qiryat Bialik intersection in the car of one of the smugglers." The same night the police caught another five drug dealers, all Arabs, suspected of smuggling drugs from the Lebanese border to the southern Gaza Strip.

Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 3 August, in a page 8 report by Buqi Na'el, said "the Tel Aviv drug squad seized 1 and ½ kg of heroin in a raid on the Abu-Sayf orchard in Yafo 2 days ago. A 14-year-old boy and two adults were arrested." Heroin was found hanging from a tree in the orchard."

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 1 August, in a page A11 ITIM report said, "the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday imposed a 6 ½ year prison term on David Ben-Nayim, 24, of Rishon Leziyyon, who acted as a courier for smuggling 1.5 kg cocaine from Colombia to Israel." The indictment said the cocaine was packed in coffee bags.

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 31 July, in a page 1 report by Judy Siegel, said that "there are an estimated 18,000 hard-drug addicts in the country, and an additional 36,000 who, while not addicted, use drugs regularly, according to a Health Ministry survey released yesterday." The report said that "drug use has grown by 25 percent each year for the past 3 years." It also said that "1.5 percent of the population

use drugs regularly, and 3 percent—50,000 people—have tried hard drugs at least once in their lives. In addition, over 5,000 people get methadone by prescription to cope with their addiction."

Egyptian, U.S. Assistance Praised

TA0908164989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The police Investigations Division last week aborted an attempt to smuggle 21 kg of heroin into Israel. This was done thanks to assistance from Egyptian police investigators and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the cooperation enabled close surveillance of the drug routes, which crossed several countries in the region. In the course of this operation, Israeli investigators were also able to interdict another heroin shipment from Egypt. Egyptian police were subsequently given information that made it possible to capture several members of the Egyptian drug ring. The entire quantity that was smuggled into Egypt was also seized.

More on Drug Seizures, Arrests

TA1008103189

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 10 August in a page 1 report by police affairs correspondent Natan Ro'i says that "2 kg of cocaine was seized 3 days ago in parcels sent from South America to drug dealers which arrived at Tel Aviv's central post office. Eight suspected drug dealers, including two women, from various locations ranging from Elat to Netanya, were remanded in custody."

Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 10 August in a page 1 report by Zehava Moses says that "two Israelis, aged about 40, known to the police in Israel and the United States, were arrested in Tel Aviv last night in possession of 1 kg of a substance suspected to be cocaine, a finger of hashish, and smoking equipment."

Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 10 August in a page 5 ITIM report said "nine people suspected of drug dealing were detained yesterday by Zvulun police during a raid on drug dealers in the Qiryat Ata area." "Detectives seized 7.7 grams of heroin and 21 grams of a substance believed to be hashish, as well as stolen goods."

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 10 August carried a report in section A, on page 7 by 'Ezra Yanuv which says that "a drug selling station was uncovered yesterday in [illegible] and three drug dealers were detained. Fifteen portions of heroin, about a kilogram of gold jewelry, and electric appliances, left as payment for drug purchases, were seized."

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1400 GMT on 8 August reports that "in a raid on a house in the village of al-Ram north of Jerusalem police seized some 200 grams of heroin, $50,000, a gun, and ammunition." Several resident drug dealers were detained.

Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0930 GMT on 7 August reports that "7 kg of heroin was seized in Gaza this morning during a raid on the al-Shaja'iyah neighborhood conducted by Gaza detectives and soldiers from the Giv'ati Brigade. The street value of the heroin is some $3 million. The police also confiscated bundles of counterfeit dollars worth $36,000. Two suspects were arrested." "Police are investigating whether this heroin haul is linked to a previous seizure of 21 kg heroin last week."

Tourism Up 8 Percent Over 1988 Figures

TA0908133989 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 9 Aug 89 p 8

[Report by David Rosenberg]

[Excerpt] Some 114,500 tourists entered Israel last month, a 12 percent drop in comparison with record 1987 levels but an 8 percent improvement over the depressed levels of last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

The July figures brought the seven-month total for the year-to-date to 698,200, 2.3 percent higher than a year earlier but 9 percent down on 1987 levels. [passage omitted]

Sharp Rise in Exports Narrows Jul Trade Deficit

TA1008063589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Aug 89 p 8

[Report by Judy Maltz]

[Text] Israel's trade deficit in July shrank to $48 million, one of its lowest levels in recent years, thanks to a sharp rise in exports, accompanied by a moderate fall in imports.

According to nonseasonally adjusted figures released yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics, imports totalled $971m. [million] last month, while exports came to $923m. The June deficit was $220m. Imports were $1.06b. [billion] and exports $840m.

Seasonally-adjusted figures (which exlude ships, aircraft and diamonds) show that in the June-July period, the average monthly trade deficit amounted to $126m., which was 57 percent lower than the average in the previous two-month period. Exports increased 24 percent in the last two months while imports slid 4.6 percent.

Commenting on the figures, the Industry and Trade Ministry attributed in the improvement in the country's trade deficit to a substantial growth in military exports, which it forecast would accelerate towards the end of the year.

The Ministry said that in recent months, sales to Israel's traditional markets in Europe, such as Britain, France and Germany, had either stabilized or fallen while sales to other markets, like Italy and Eastern Europe, had risen considerably. In line with the strengthening of the dollar this spring, it said sales to the U.S. had picked up.

In the first seven months of the year, net imports totalled $7.3b., unchanged from the same period last year. Net exports, however, were up 5.3 percent to $5.9b., narrowing the trade deficit in the January-July period by 17 percent to $1.4b.

The July figures show that diamonds accounted for 32 percent of the country's total exports, industrial exports 66.5 percent and agricultural produce 1.5 percent. Since the beginning of the year, exports have reached a monthly average of $600m., some 4 percent higher than the average monthly figure in 1988.

Seasonally-adjusted industrial exports (excluding diamonds) rose 19 percent in the June-July period, compared with the preceding two months. According to the bureau, more than half of this increase was attributable to a rise in metal, machinery and electronic exports, which together account for about 45 percent of total industrial exports. During the last two months, food exports jumped 17 percent. Exports in other sectors either remained stable or dropped, as compared with the April-May period.

Diamond exports, which fell sharply in June, after sales to the all important Hong Kong market came to a virtual halt, picked up again in July, rising 70 percent. But because of the significant drop in June, the average monthly diamond export figure for the June-July period was $203m., 12.5 percent lower than in the previous two-month period.

Production inputs accounted for an overwhelming 79 percent of Israel's imports last month (including diamonds and oil). Capital goods accounted for 11.5 percent and consumer goods 9.5 percent.

The seasonally-adjusted figures show that in the June-July period, average monthly imports came to $683m., which was 7.6 percent lower than in the previous two-month period. The June-July figures are in line with the downward trend in imports evident since the beginning of the year.

Imports of consumer goods fell 7 percent in the last two months. Imports of consumer durables were down 15 percent during this period, and in the first seven months of the year came to a monthly average of $44m., some 24 percent lower than the monthly average in the second half of last year.

Imports of production inputs came to a monthly average of $476m. in the last two months, 7 percent lower than in the previous two months, while capital good imports fell 16 percent.

Poll Shows Polarization in Wake of Uprising

TA0808090389 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 8 Aug 89 p 5

[Text] Modi'in Ezrahi, a research institute directed by Dr Rahel Yisra'eli, conducted a public opinion poll during the 2d and 3d week of July 1989 to see whether the intifadah [uprising] has changed the political positions of the public and the patterns of those changes.

Respondents were asked to grade themselves on a scale from 1 to 7, ranging from the far left to the far right, on their current position and their position 2 years ago—in other words, before the beginning of the intifadah.

The averaged grading of all respondents and of those with different political orientations leads to two conclusions:

The intifadah has had a different impact on different sectors of the Israeli public and, consequently, has led to the radicalization of political stances: Voters for the Likud, the religious parties, and for the right-wing parties in particular have in the last 2 years become more right-wing, whereas left-wing voters have become more left-wing. Alignment voters say they have not changed their positions in the wake of the intifadah.

The averaged grading reflecting the current position of the respondents is slightly higher than it was 4 years ago. The difference between the two gradings is statistically obvious and indicates that on the whole the public has moved to the right.

Intended Voting in Knesset Elections

	Total Sample	Alignment	Likud	Religious Parties	Left Wing	Right Wing
My position today	4.58	3.67	5.44	5.42	2.89	5.91
My position 2 years ago	4.41	3.67	5.12	5.32	3.13	5.19

Based on the answers of the respondents, we also calculated the number of those who see themselves more left-wing than in the past, those who have moved to the right, and those who say they place themselves at exactly the same spot on the scale as 2 years ago.

The answers of all respondents and of respondents of different political orientations are given in the following table:

Intended Voting in Knesset Elections

	Total Sample	Alignment	Likud	Religious Parties	Left Wing	Right Wing
More right-wing than before	19.9	9.2	27.5	18.1	6.0	41.9
Not changed position	70.9	79.4	67.9	75.3	72.1	53.5
More left-wing than before	9.2	11.4	4.6	6.6	31.9	4.6

While most respondents (71 percent) say they have not changed their positions in the wake of the intifadah, the number of those who have become more right-wing or hawkish (20 percent) is significantly higher than the number of those who have not become more dovish or left-wing in the wake of the events of the past 2 years.

The polarization in Israeli public opinion is reflected in the fact that 42 percent of right-wing voters say they are more right-wing today than in the past, while 32 percent of the left-wing bloc voters say their current position tends to be more left-wing than in the past.

The poll was conducted through individual interviews with 1,186 respondents who constitute a national sample of the adult Jewish population of Israel, excluding inhabitants of kibbutzim and the territories.

Boy Killed in Gaza Strip 9 Aug; Curfew Update

TA0908164689 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1630 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] A 7-year-old boy, Yusuf Razi Salama, was killed this afternoon in the al-Shati' refugee camp after being struck by a bullet. Five other local youths were wounded, one of them seriously. A curfew was imposed on the camp at approximately 1630. Curfews remain in force in the Khan Yunus and Jabalyah refugee camps, as well as in the village of Jabalyah.

A commercial strike was upheld throughout the Gaza Strip today, and few workers left for Israel. This was reported by 'Ezra Yanuv, our correspondent in the south.

More Deaths Reported

TA0908193989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Eight-year-old Yusuf Razi Salama and 23-year-old 'Ali Muhammad Khalil were killed today during a riot at the al-Shati' refugee camp. Their bodies were snatched from the hospital in Gaza and buried. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] is investigating the circumstances of the incident.

An IDF spokesman told our correspondent Moti Amir that another five residents of the refugee camp were injured in the disturbance. Local residents assert that the number of casualties is larger. A curfew was imposed on al-Shati'.

Hebron residents claim that an 18-year-old youth, Nidal Ibrahim Misk, was killed today when shot at by passengers of an Israeli bus on its way to Qiryat Arba'. They reported that the bus had been pelted with stones, and that its passengers had then descended from the bus and shot and killed the youth. His body was snatched and buried. The IDF and police are investigating this report.

Further on 9 Aug Unrest

TA1008105389 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Aug 89 p 12

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] In the Balatah and 'Askar refugee camps, fist fights broke out between Fatah supporters and followers of George Habash's Popular Front reportedly over the issue of school closings. The clashes occurred as black-hooded Fatah members demanded the schools remain open, while the red-hooded Popular Front wanted them closed. Parents responded by keeping their children at home.

Police imposed a brief curfew yesterday morning on the village of Dayr Istiya, after two petrol bombs were thrown at the cars of settlers near Ari'el on Monday. Palestinians said detained men had their footprints checked to see if they match those found where the petrol bombs were thrown.

[Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 10 August in a report by Ayelet Mazor, Rasim Ibrahim, and ITIM on pages 1 and 4 adds: "Yesterday the security forces carried out initiated operations in the Tulkarm District villages of Dayr al-Ghusun, Bayt Furik, and Dayr Istiya. Wanted persons were detained, and residents were requested to take down PLO flags and erase graffiti. In incidents in the 'Askar refugee camp, near Nabulus, three local residents were wounded by soldiers' gunfire."]

The curfew on the Nur al-Shams refugee camp, near Tulkarm, went into its eighth day. A short curfew was imposed on Qabatiyah village, near Janin, and then lifted. [passage omitted]A youth was shot and wounded in clashes with troops in the al-Fawwar refugee camp, near Hebron.

[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 10 August on page 1 carries a report by Ori Nir and Eytan Rabin on the "violent clashes between residents and soldiers, which lasted throughout the day and the evening, in which 2 local residents were killed, 3 were critically wounded, and 25 sustained lighter injuries."

Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 10 August in a page 3 report by Dani Rubinstein and ITIM adds: "Last night, sources in Gaza reported that a Rafah resident, Sulayman Abu-Hamid, 45, was killed by knife wounds and was brought yesterday morning to al-Shifa' Hospital. His murder is attributed to the fact that he was believed to have been a collaborator."]

U.S. Must Tackle 'Terrorist Israeli Mentality'

JN0608111089 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
6 Aug 89 pp 1, 18

[Editorial: "Israel and the Evasion of the Peace Impasse"]

[Text] Since Israel's terrorist act of abduction in southern Lebanon and the consequences of this abduction, the U.S. Aministration and world capitals have been preoccupied with the repercussions of this operation. It is now clear more than ever before that there is a need for an Israeli pledge before the world to renounce terrorism so as not to motivate counterterrorism. Israel should abide by such a pledge not only in southern Lebanon, but in the occupied territories and the entire world so as not to resort to terrorism at all, whether for reprisal or political reasons, or within the framework of internal party tactics.

However, it seems that evading the peace impasse was one of the most important incentives for the abduction operation. Israel was absolutely certain that the operation would lead to the tragic results to which it led. When it planned the operation, Israel concluded that such results could distract the world attention from the peace process and the call for an international conference, even though temporarily, and that world attention must be drawn to what it likes to call the terrorism issue. Thus, Israel would be able, even though temporarily, to evade the peace impasse it is facing, until it manages to fabricate another event to prolong the evasion. It appears that the Republican leader in the U.S. Congress alluded to Israeli officials in his harsh criticism of the abduction in which Israel ignored all humanitarian considerations. Furthermore, it wagered on turning the tragic results of the operation into a means through which to evade the peace impasse.

The exposure of this nonhumanitarian wager before the world should motivate the international community to make Israel understand that the peace process cannot be exchanged with the terrorism issue. Israel tries to escalate this issue and counters any effort to liquidate it through involvement in fresh terrorist practices which lead to counterreactions, thus maintaining the momentum of the terrorism issue to exploit it in distracting the world attention from the peace process.

The Arabs have affirmed more than once and continue to affirm their denunciation of terrorism and counterterrorism. They abide by that in words and deeds. It is necessary, nevertheless, that the U.S. Administration should not confine its efforts to tackling the results of every terrorist act separately, but should move to tackle the terrorist Israeli mentality, which has lead to many terrorist practices in Lebanon, the occupied territories, and other areas in the world. This mentality continues to obstruct the peace process in order to abort it.

If the U.S. Administration can make Israel renounce terrorism, terrorism will automatically disappear from the region, and new encouraging horizons will be opened to help the region reach the shores of peace.

Shamir Reveals Projected Peace Plan Outcome

JN0108084489 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
1 Aug 89 p 4

[Editorial: "Shamir's Confession"]

[Text] There is no better commentary on the Israeli prime minister's true intentions and ulterior motives than to quote the words he used when addressing about 200 right-wing rabbis last Thursday. The occasion was the Chief Rabbinate Halachkic decision that the Tora forbids territorial concessions in the so-called Eretz Yisra'el. As if in a confession session before the religious leaders of Israel, Yitzhak Shamir assured his audience that he had no intention of ever ceding even a "sliver" of land for peace and pledged to enhance Jewish settlement "everywhere." Shamir went on to say: "Everything that we're doing...is only for Eretz Yisra'el and peace." And in outlining his conception of peace, Shamir emphatically rejected the principle of giving up any part of the occupied Arab territories for peace. "Peace," he said, "should and can be attained without forging even a sliver of the pupil of our eye, the land of our forefathers, our holy land." And, as if wanting to remove the slightest shred of doubt about where Israel really stands on the future of the occupied territories, the Israeli prime minister told his applauding audience that when Israel and "its neighbors" negotiate a final settlement, it will not include any territorial element.

So there we have it. There is clearly no nonsense about the intentions of the Israeli Government under the leadership of Shamir. As for all of those who still demand assurances about the fate of the final stage of the Shamir "peace initiative," his words, which were uttered in the most solemn manner and before so many religious leaders, offer the clearest ever insight of where the projected negotiations under the "Shamir peace plan" would end up.

The big puzzle in all this is why Shamir chose once again to disclose his most inner thoughts on the eve of the Palestinian deliberations over the election formula of Shamir's scheme. It is just possible that Shamir seeks to preempt the PLO's formal decision on the election idea by discouraging its members from rallying in favor of taking it for a try. Should the election idea receive general, albeit conditional, approval from the Palestinian side, Shamir and his clique might very well find themselves in an embarrassing situation. After all, Shamir is counting on Palestinian rejection of the idea to save him from facing up to what it could nilly willy lead to. If such a scenario is probable, the Palestinian side may still wish to play out Shamir's game to the bitter end by calling his bluff.

Plan To Cut West Bank Awqaf Ties Possible

TA0708095289 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 4 Aug 89 p 1

[Text] AL-QUDS has learned that the relevant agencies in Amman are undertaking a study of the current situation of the awqaf departments and shari'a courts in the West Bank that are still affiliated to Jordan and that were excluded from Jordan's decision last year to disengage from the West Bank. This is in preparation for including these departments and courts in the disengagement decision.

Plan 'Strongly' Denied

JN1008093689 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 10 Aug 89 pp 1, 13

[By Sa'd al-Silawi]

[Text] Amman—Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Khayyat, minister of Islamic affairs, holy places, and religious trusts, has strongly denied reports that Jordan intends to disengage its ties with the West Bank's religous trusts, which were excluded from Jordan's decision last year to dismantle ties with the West Bank.

In an exclusive statement to SAWT AL-SHA'B, Dr al-Khayyat said such dangerous news would lead to the loss of the Islamic holy places and is aimed at destroying the Islamic culture.

He stressed that Jordan will continue to shoulder its responsibilities toward the holy places, Islamic courts, the reconstruction of the al-Aqsa mosque, and the Ministry of Education's schools in Jerusalem.

Dr al-Khayyat said that Jordan has never discontinued spending on Islamic holy places in Jerusalem since 1967. It has spent $138 million over this period, he said.

He explained that Jordan annually spends $6 million of its budget on Islamic trusts, mosques, religious courts, and schools in Jerusalem and on the reconstruction of the al-Aqsa mosque in the city. [passage omitted]

Unlicensed Democratic People's Party Formed

JN3107070889 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 31 Jul 89

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] A new political organization called the Jordanian Democratic People's Party [hizb al-sha'b al-dimuqrati al-urduni] has emerged in Amman. It stems from a group of banned parties, most important among which is the Democratic Front Organization. A spokesman for this party, which has not been legalized, said the party principles include the enhancement of the country's independence and sovereignty and the provision of the basic factors of its economic development, in addition to guaranteeing public freedoms and democratic rights for all citizens.

It will be noted that the Democratic Front Organization has a distinguished relationship with Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which, according to the source, hastened to welcome the birth of the new party. Regarding the establishment of the party in Amman, the source stressed that neither he nor his friends were subjected to any harassments by the official Jordanian authorities.

It will be recalled that political parties in Jordan have been banned since 1957. A responsible source declined to comment on the establishment of this party, indicating that the official Jordanian authorities do not recognize any party that is not officially licensed.

It is noteworthy that Jordan is in the process of preparing a national charter that will later produce national Jordanian parties provided that their aims and purposes do not conflict with the provisions of the Constitution.

Ministers Confirm Aid, Deny Debt Pact With Iraq

JN1008090989 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 10 Aug 89 pp 1, 13

[By 'Abd-al-Khaliq al-Mawmani and Sa'd al-Silawi]

[Text] Amman—Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has described as imprecise and unreal reports that Jordan and Iraq have agreed for Iraq to ask the Kuwaiti Government to pay Jordan $450 million in return for Iraqi debts to Jordan on the condition that Iraq repays the sum to Kuwait in installments to be agreed upon between the two countries. Neither Jordan nor Iraq has requested this, he told SAWT AL-SHA'B.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Basil Jardanah has told SAWT AL-SHA'B that Jordan received $70 million at the beginning of the week from the United Arab Emirates—$40 million from the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and $30 million from the Emirate of Dubai. This falls within the assistance that fraternal Arab countries are providing for Jordan to help it overcome its economic crisis, he said.

Central Bank Governor Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi also stated to SAWT AL-SHA'B that news about an agreement between Jordan and Iraq to repay Iraq's $450-million debt to Jordan is baseless.

CBJ Governor Cited on Dinar Stability

JN0908184889 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1450 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 9 Aug (WAKH)—Dr Muhammad Sa'id al-Nabulsi, governor of the Central Bank of Jordan [CBJ], has revealed that the Jordanian security services apprehended a network of speculators who were deliberately seeking to bring about a devaluation of the dinar and to prevent its circulation in the West Bank.

In an interview with AL-SHARIQAH AL-KHALIJ published today, Al-Nabulsi said that the security services, through extensive interrogation of the network members residing in Jordan, have obtained clues to the conspiracy against Jordan's economy, its steadfastness, and the stability of its national currency.

Dr al-Nabulsi announced that the CBJ submitted a request to the Gulf central banks operating in the Gulf Cooperation Council member states asking them to support its hard currency reserves.

Al-Nabulsi said that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia voiced support for the request submitted by the CBJ and addressed a request to all Arabian Gulf states asking them to make their central banks deposit sums of money in the CBJ.

Dr al-Nabulsi affirmed that Saudi Arabia gave Jordan a $200 million grant. He added that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia displayed a full understanding of the hard times confronting Jordan.

The CBJ governor indicated that the Saudi Arabian grant, as well as the economic measures taken by the CBJ to narrow the scope of dealing with the official exchange rate and to expand the use of the floated banking rate, in addition to the relatively strong intervention by the CBJ to finance imports, have helped improve the situation of the Jordanian dinar and its exchange rate.

Dr al-Nabulsi added that Jordan will continue to work according to the two-tier exchange rate system despite the fact that Jordan, in principle, does not believe in this system. He added that the emergency facing Jordan dictates that this system be used. However, Al-Nabulsi said, Jordan will return to a unified exchange rate at the earliest opportunity. The CBJ governor said: Our urgent objective now is to restore confidence in the Jordanian currency and to restore to normal levels the inflow of foreign currency, especially the remittances of Jordanian expatriates.

On the Jordanian Government's policy regarding the merger of some local banks in Jordan, Al-Nabulsi said that the merger involving the Petra Bank and the Jordan and Gulf Bank was very necessary, as it was dictated by the need to correct abnormal phenomena in the Jordanian banking system and to bolster the banking system through developing capital accounts.

Al-Nabulsi described this merger as an indispensable remedy and added that the Jordanian Government does not intend to force the merger of other local banks.

Counterfeit U.S. Dollars Seized at Border Post

JN0908141889 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 9 Aug 89 pp 1, 18

[Excerpt] Amman (PETRA)—The authorities at al-Ramtha border post have seized 50,000 counterfeit U.S. dollars intended for illegal sale to citizens in the local market. [passage omitted]

Hizballah Says All Paths to Exchange 'Closed'

NC0908201289 Paris AFP in English 1957 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Beirut, Aug 9 (AFP)—The pro-Iranian group Hizballah refused anew here Wednesday to free two Israeli soldiers captured in February 1986 in southern Lebanon as part of an exchange of prisoners.

Hizballah said in a communique that Israel's abduction of a Shiite Moslem cleric, Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd, had "made it impossible to free the Zionist prisoners, and all the paths leading to an exchange are closed."

Israel has offered to release the cleric abducted from south Lebanon and other Shiite prisoners in return for Israeli soldiers and foreign hostages held in Lebanon.

The abduction of Shaykh 'Ubayd by Israeli commandos on July 28 triggered a hostage crisis in which U.S. Lieutenant Colonel Williams Higgins was reportedly hanged last week.

"The continued detention of Shaykh 'Ubayd and the link established between the fate of the Zionist prisoners and the Western hostages in Lebanon will harm the West and further complicate the hostages affair," the Shiite fundamentalist Hizballah warned.

"This link... integrates the hostages affair with the war that has pitted Moslems against the Zionists since 1936 and which will never end."

Amid complicated bargaining, the kidnappers of U.S. hostage Joseph Cicippio have offered to release him in exchange for 450 Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners in Israel, with Shaykh 'Ubayd at the top of the list.

The latest apparent refusal to negotiate from Hizballah came as a member of the Islamic Resistance, the group's armed wing, rammed a car packed with explosives into an Israeli army convoy in south Lebanon, wounding five soldiers and a pro-Israeli militiaman. [passage omitted]

Western Hostages Reportedly Moved to Al-Biqa'

NC0908175889 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-ITTIHAD reported today that the Western hostages were moved from southern Lebanon to al-Biqa' on 5 August.

Hizballah Branch Denounces 'Ubayd Abduction

NC0008091389 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Hizballah-Hejaz Branch, has denounced the criminal kidnapping of Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd, noting that the idea of force still dominates the thinking of the forces of global arrogance which are led by the great Satan America. It is necessary, therefore, to teach those forces an unforgettable lesson. Hizballah-Hejaz Branch announced its support for every step which Muslims may have to take in order to defend their dignity and their most cherished values.

Hizballah Stresses Israeli Responsibility

NC0908155789 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1454 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] A responsible source in Hizballah has stressed that the Zionist entity is responsible for the setback in the efforts made to release the Western hostages in Lebanon. He pointed out that the racist Zionists seem fully ready to sacrifice all others for the sake of their interests. He advised Western public opinion to comprehend this fact in an enlightened and responsible way and to realize the magnititude of the burdens resulting from its continued sympathy with the Israelis.

Further Reportage on Bombing in Southern Zone

TA0908102389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Excerpt] There has been a suicide car bombing attack in the security zone in south Lebanon. Five Israeli soldiers were injured, one of them in serious condition. A second suffered moderate wounds, and three were lightly injured. An SLA [South Lebanese Army] was also lightly wounded. David Ze'ev reports:

The Army Spokesman's office says the incident took place as an Army convoy was on patrol south of Al-Qulay'ah in the security zone. As we said, one soldier was seriously wounded, one sustained moderate wounds, three others were lightly hurt, a south Lebanese soldier was also lightly wounded.

The Army announcement came just moments ago. The incident took place this morning, according to sources in Lebanon, at around 0900. The Army says the consequences could have been worse if not for the fact that patrols now keep great distances between each vehicle, a lesson learned from previous such attacks.

An initial Army investigation says that there were two terrorists inside the vehicle said by eyewitnesses to have been a General Motors pickup truck. Lebanese security sources said the explosion caused a crater 2 meters deep in the ground. A Voice of Israel reporter in the north said the bomb contained 50 kg of explosives. The six were taken to Rambam Hospital in Haifa. [passage omitted]

'Dozens' Questioned; Crossings Open

TA1008044189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Israeli and South Lebanese Army forces have interrogated dozens of residents of the security zone in connection with yesterday's car bombing. Several Shiite residents of the security zone were

arrested. A Voice of Israel [VOI] reporter says that the army is trying to check whether the suicide bomb attacker was aided by residents of the security zone.

This morning, all border crossing points into the security zone were opened; 2,000 Lebanese workers were permitted to go to their jobs inside Israel. The sole crossing point from the security zone into Lebanon was also reopened. A senior Army officer told the VOI reporter that the Hizballah is trying to incite the local population against Israel, and the closing off of the area would serve the Hizballah interests. Therefore, the officer said, it was decided to keep the security zone open.

More on Car Bombing

LD0908125889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] A number of Zionist forces were killed or wounded in a suicidal operation by Lebanon's Muslim revolutionaries against the forces of the Zionist regime in the south of that country. According to the report of the Central News Unit, at 0900 this morning, a car carrying explosives blew up in front of an armored column of forces of the Zionist regime on the road to the border town of Marj 'Uyun, bringing the movement of that armored column to a halt. Following this explosion, the operational zone was surrounded by forces of the Zionist regime.

According to the latest reports, during this operation, one soldier of the Zionist regime was killed and ten others were wounded. A group called Husayn's Children accepted responsibility for this operation. That group, while stressing its convenant with His Holiness Aba 'Abd-Allah al-Husayn, peace be upon him, has vowed that it will continue the struggle until victory or martyrdom.

According to this report, the revolutionary Muslim who was driving the vehicle carrying the bomb was martyred. The last suicide attack was carried out 1 year ago on Kafr Kahlah Pass on the Lebanese border by (Hurr Ameli), as the result of which a number of the forces of the Tel Aviv regime were killed or wounded.

Al-Huss, Fadlallah Praise Attack

NC0908161089 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has praised the martyrdom operation, stressing that resistance is the most honorable expression of the patriotic position that rejects occupation and the oppression and aggression it signifies. He said that self-sacrifice is the greatest embodiment of the self-denial which characterizes resistance. He pointed out that the operation today reminds us of the danger threatening our future as a result of the Israeli occupation of dear parts of our homeland. History will certainly immortalize this youth in Lebanon's bright pages while it is passing through a most serious stage.

Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah blessed the happy martyr. He said that this great martyrdom defies those who speak the language of defeatism, retreat, and the fall, as well as all the muscle-flexing by the arrogant powers, foremost of which are America and Israel, who seek to undermine the spirit of struggle in the hearts of Muslim fundamentalists. He stressed: We will not kneel, retreat, or fall. We will face the arrogant campaigns designed to weaken our spirit of struggle. With this spirit, we will stand strongly and firmly and forge ahead on the path of God and his Prophet. He emphasized that the stage is difficult and the path long. All strugglers must close ranks and unite in their struggle and not allow any arrogant or adventurer to infiltrate their ranks through small issues to undermine the big causes. Concluding his statement, Fadlallah said: We tell Israel, who tried to undermine the spirit of the strugglers by kidnapping His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd al-Karim 'Ubyad, that this is our down payment on the account and there will be many more. He stressed that Israel lost politically and will lose militarily.

Al-Musawi Praises Attack

NC1008083489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Brother Sayyid Husayn al-Musawi has said that the [9 August car bomb attack on an Israeli convoy] martyrdom operation has established the fact that no power on earth can extinguish the spirit of struggle instilled in our hearts by the late Imam Khomeyni. The sons of Islam will not negotiate with the Zionists except through such emissaries as Ahmad Qasir, Abu-Zaynab, Bilal Fahs, Al-Hurr al-'Amili [earlier suicide bombers], and the like. Our negotiating emissary today was Shaykh As'ad Birru [killed in 9 August car bomb]

Al-Musawi added: We reiterate that we are on the side of the intifadah [uprising], of all Lebanese and Palestinian Muslims and nationalists, and of the Islamic Republic and Syria. In homage to our great martyrs, we will fight the usurping Zionists and face up to America, leader of the global arrogance, until our sacred land is liberated. The hostility of Maronite politics and of [Iraqi President] Saddam will not dishearten us, nor will the committees of [Saudi Arabian King] Fahd, the ruler of Morocco, and the agents of America and Israel disconcert us. History is full of lessons that teach us that oppressed people who fight for their religion, rights, and freedom will triumph in the end.

Bulgarian Nationals To Leave by 10 Aug

NC0908173589 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Citing diplomatic sources, the al-Sahafiyah News Agency says that the Bulgarian Embassy in Lebanon today informed its nationals that they must leave Lebanese territory as soon as possible and not later than tomorrow evening.

'Awn Assails Syria in 9 Aug News Conference

NC0908164389 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] At a news conference today, Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn declared that the Syrian regime's failure to cover up the nature of the war in Lebanon prompts it to describe the war as sectarian. This is a device Syria uses whenever its role in this war is publicly exposed. 'Awn disclosed that the Syrians threatened all the families of the Muslim soldiers in the occupied areas in an attempt to prevent these soldiers from joining the Army. He also said that Walid Junblatt has expelled the Sunni inhabitants of Iqlim al-Kharrub.

General 'Awn expressed the hope that the Soviet Union will adopt a stand regarding its armament of Syria, which is using Soviet weapons to destroy Lebanon and kill its people. He said that while the Syrian regime has used 240-mm and 180-mm caliber weapons in Homs, Hamah, Beirut, and Tripoli, it has not used them in the Golan Heights.

'Awn said that the convening of the upcoming Arab summit is based on a decision made in the previous summit. He stressed the positive results reached by the tripartite committee, which has diagnosed the disease for which the upcoming emergency summit will only have to prescribe the medicine.

He said that at the end of the Casablanca conference and through President Saddam Husayn's letter to it, the reservations over the resolutions were removed provided that the Arabs hold a summit meeting if the tripartite committee fails. I hope that this conference will be held very soon, he said.

'Awn disclosed some of the contents of the messsage he addressed to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. He said that the Soviet Union provides weapons to states to defend themselves and to liberate their occupied lands while the Syrian regime has brought 240-mm artillery to Lebanon.

On the hostage issue and the opening of its dossier at this particular time, General 'Awn said that the issue of Colonel Higgins proves once again that terrorism is not Lebanese. Higgins was kidnaped in Lebanon, but negotiations are with Syria and Iran for his body to be handed over and the other hostages released.

'Awn chided former U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz who forgot who trains, sponsors, and distributes terrorists around the world.

PSP Expels Palestinians From Iqlim al-Kharrub

NC0908205489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Palestinian official Zayd Wahbah declared in Sidon that Proogressive Socialist Party officials have expelled 100 Palestinian families from the town of al-Jiyah in Iqlim al-Kharrub to Sidon within the framework of their ambition to establish cantons.

Further on Deportations

NC1008081789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] PLO spokesman in Lebanon Zayd Wahbi has called on Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leader Walid Junblatt to rescind his decision to deport Palestinian families from Iqlim al-Kharrub. If Junblatt refuses to meet this demand, our people will defend themselves with all possible means, Wahbi said. The Palestinian official warned of the gravity of Junblatt's move, which he said serves the interests of the Israeli enemy.

Wahbi noted that 2 days ago PSP gunmen expelled 90 Palestinian families from al-Jiyah to Sidon and asserted that the measure marks the beginning of a demographic change and the establishment of cantons in Lebanon.

Further on Al-Huss' Appeal to Arab Committee

NC0908062989 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Political activity remains restricted to the appeal to the Arab tripartite committee to resume its mission in order to end Lebanon's crisis. In this context, Prime Minister Salim al-Huss' message to the committee's leaders is the best expression of the Lebanese people's present fears and the most sincere appeal to frustrate the desires of those who are exploiting the substance of the committee report to serve their own purposes in the ongoing conflict in Lebanon.

Al-Huss noted in his message that the Lebanese people, in both the eastern and western areas, are faced with the specter of dispersal and annihilation because the person who said that he does not care whether Beirut was destroyed and rebuilt for the eighth or ninth time is continuing to carry out his threats.

Addressing the committee members, Prime Minister al-Huss said: We do not hide from you the fact that some parts of the ministerial committee report shocked us. Some parts were not just while other parts were neither true nor complete. Thus, on the basis of considerations that have nothing to do with the substance of the existing conflict, one party to the conflict was able to interpret the report as a victory for it over the other party, which represents many Lebanese from all groups and sects.

Prime Minister al-Huss underlined his full commitment to the Casablanca summit resolution and appealed to the committee to continue its efforts in order to implement its pan-Arab and humanitarian mission. He added that the committee's resumption of its efforts could be an opportunity to assess the former experience in order to renew the efforts on the bases of new principles that would ensure the mission's success.

Shelling Reported in Beirut Areas 10 Aug

NC1008091189 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] At 1030 today, al-Fayyadiyah and al-Hazimiyah [in East Beirut] came under sudden shelling from Syrian heavy-caliber artillery emplacements in Bhamdun. These areas are still coming under intermittent shelling.

[In a news flash at 0834 GMT, Voice of Lebanon reports: "The Syrian attacks continue to target the eastern areas, particularly southern al-Matn. Al-Fayyadiyah, al-Hadath, and al-Hazimiyah are coming under violent Syrian shelling. A short while ago, 120-mm shells landed on Bsaba and Suq al-Gharb. Clashes are also taking place on the combat lines in the suburb, 'Ayn al-Rummanah, and al-Shiyah."]

Aircraft Overfly Mountain

NC1008094889 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Various mountain areas have been coming under artillery fire since 1030 today. The areas of 'Alayh and Dahr al-Wahsh are coming under violent shellfire from howitzers and mortars. Intermittent shellfire is also being directed at al-Ma'rufiyah. Shells are also falling on the al-Shuwayfat hills. As a result of this tense situation, movement on the al-Karamah road is risky. Citizens are called upon to be careful in their movements in view of the intentions to escalate the situation on the part of the al-Yarzah army. The shelling coincided with flights by enemy aircraft over the mountain region.

Casualties Reported

NC1008121689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Syria, which the Arab tripartite committee has identified as the obstructing side and which is still intent on undermining any further Arab move, began shelling East Beirut residential areas as of 1030 today. The treacherous shelling, in which 240-mm artillery shells were used, left 1 person dead and 14 injured in East Beirut. [passage omitted]

The shelling grew in intensity at 1145 and shells fell close to the Defense Ministry and the presidential palace. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, clashes in which light- and medium-caliber weapons were used broke out on the 'Ayn al-Rummanah-al-Shiyah combat line at 1100. These clashes became violent at 1300 as fighting extended to the Fransiscan, museum, Primo, Ra's al-Nab', and Sodeco combat lines. [passage omitted]

Following 2 hours of Syrian shelling, the Lebanese Army returned the fire which was coming from West Beirut, the southern suburb, the mountain, and upper al-Matn. [passage omitted]

According to West Beirut media, shells fell on Verdun, the sports city, al-Tariq al-Jadidah, Tallat al-Khayyat, Spinneys, al-Mazra'ah, Burj Abu-Haydar, the vicinity of the airport, and al-Barbir. The same sources said that two people were killed and five others wounded in the shelling.

Press Assesses Government Support for Lebanon
JN0508073689 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 5 Aug 89

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syria is the Most Concerned for Lebanon," TISHRIN says: Nobody has given Lebanon the support, or part of the support, which Syria has; and no country has devoted all its potentials and capabilities to help the Lebanese brothers as Syria has for the past 14 years. Syria's sacrifices and efforts have continued. And the objective has not changed—that is, the achievement of national reconciliation among the Lebanese, which is the sublime objective and the only way to end the civil war and establish peace and tranquillity in the sisterly country.

TISHRIN adds: Because the security of the two countries is the same and what takes place in Lebanon has an impact on Syria, the Lebanese issue has always been the main concern of Syrian policy for all these years. Syria exerted great and persistent efforts to bring closer the viewpoints of the Lebanese parties on a basic principle that accepts no compromise—that is, the united Lebanon in terms of land and people; and Lebanon that affects and is affected by its Arab environment.

TISHRIN says: Syria has always said that it embraces all sincere Lebanese nationalist efforts to reach a solution through national dialogue.

TISHRIN adds: However, the partition plot has been exposed, thus, some parties' relations with the Israeli enemy have been exposed as part of the plan to divide Lebanon and turn it into a Zionist protectorate and an aggressive base against Syria and the Arab nation.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: Syria cannot remain silent on such a plot, which is planned by the Zionists and implemented by the separatists. The issue is that of people and fate; it is a question of confronting a scheme to establish another Israel in the sisterly state that will become a spearhead against Syria and the Arabs. Therefore, Syria cannot stand by and allow the establishment of another Israel.

Commenting on the same topic under the headline "The Losing Wager," AL-THAWRAH says: 'Awn, together with his small isolated clique, has shown that he seeks strength from Israel which has directed in his service the support of the fascist regime in Iraq. Consequently, 'Awn agreed to play the role of a short-term tool of the Zionist plan in Lebanon aimed at inflicting more killings and destruction on the ranks of Lebanese to achieve partition. 'Awn and his clique will not succeed in changing the reality of the reasons of the Lebanese crisis and the constants of the national solution based on political reforms, entrenching the unity of Lebanon—territory and people—and safeguarding its Arab identity and affiliation. Therefore, the outbidders will only harvest disappointment and bitterness. They will fall as those who came before them. And this is a lesson for those who want to learn.

Resistance 'Must Be Escalated' To Topple 'Awn
JN0708080089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 7 Aug 89

[Press review]

[Text] AL-BA'TH says: This is not the first time that the Zionist enemy and its agents have launched slander and deception campaigns to attack Syria and its role in Lebanon in an attempt to interfere with, and affect this role. The Lebanese issue has passed through many stages since the enemy ignited the crisis and added fuel to its fire, directly and indirectly. Throughout these stages, the Zionists and their agents have worked to burn Lebanon, Syria, and the Arabs. Our country's position and national decisions have always been a target of the slander campaigns launched by the Zionist propaganda organs and their hirelings who thought that their flowery statements would turn those dwarfs into giants.

AL-BA'TH adds: Syria paid no attention to these campaigns because it, together with the Lebanese people and the Arab masses, recognizes their intentions and is aware of every guise behind which the enemy and its agents are trying to hide—beginning with bypassing reconciliation and political reform and ending with the false slogan of liberation raised by the agent clique.

AL-BA'TH says: The question that has always been raised is the following: From whom does 'Awn want to liberate Lebanon while dealing with the representatives of southern Lebanon, Juniyah, Jubayl? The issue has always been the following: The only objective of those who deal with the Zionists and Iraq's executioner is to destroy Lebanon and kill more of its sons. And this is what the Zionist enemy is trying to achieve.

Concluding, AL-BA'TH says: With the new stage in Lebanon, the national struggle must be escalated to topple the symbols of agentry and save Lebanon from their tampering and lies. The homeland is on the threshold of salvation and a bright tomorrow is coming to Lebanon and its sons who are honest and believe in its unity and Arabism.

On the same topic, TISHRIN says: The [Lebanese] nationalist forces have called for assessing the situation in general after the Arab tripartite committee's announcement of the failure of its mission. Although the Lebanese expressed hope that the committee would resume its contacts, there are facts on the ground that must be recalled and entrenched. Foremost among these facts is that the Lebanese people will not deal with 'Awn and his military clique nor will they bargain over their rights, freedom, unity, and Arabism.

TISHRIN adds: The Lebanese nationalist forces have always warned against the danger of dealing with 'Awn's military clique. They have called on all Lebanese to adopt one position that will entrench a united and Arab Lebanon. This is because shelling the Lebanese areas in this bestial manner only aims at displacing people. This reminds us of the Zionist schemes to displace the Palestinians from their homeland, which confirms 'Awn's involvement in the scheme to establish a second Israel in Lebanon that will be at war with Syria and the Arabs.

TISHRIN says: Since 'Awn is receiving arms directly from Israel and its allies, and he is shelling the nationalist areas with these arms, do the Lebanese not have the right to confront this danger? And does Syria, which has made many sacrifices for Lebanon, not have the right—indeed the duty—to help all Lebanese, who are struggling for their country's Arabism, freedom, and independence?

Reaction to Arab Committee Statement Viewed

JN0908155089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, any reading of the record of the Lebanese crisis shows clearly that there are basics and constants that cannot be ignored in reaching a solution of the crisis and saving Lebanon from the dangers surrounding it. These dangers are represented by the Israeli occupation of the south and its plans to fragment and partition Lebanon. At the top of the list of constants and basics are:

First, the unity of Lebanon's territory and people and the preservation and entrenchment of this unity are indispensable to any move toward salvation that will lead to the aspired goals.

Second, Lebanon's security is bound to Syria's and to the pan-Arab security of the Arab nation. Any slackness in reinforcing this truth means threatening Arab security everywhere and allowing the Zionist enemy to proceed with its many forms of aggression against the Arab nation from Lebanon, in addition to all the great dangers threatening the present and the future of the nation.

Third, the ideal way to achieve any practical solution of the Lebanon crisis must proceed from political reform, justice, and equality among all the Lebanese citizens in their rights and duties.

Fourth, the Israeli occupation is the essence of the crisis. It is the one fact obstructing the proposed solutions of the Lebanese crisis, and pushing the crisis—with the help of its tools and agents—toward escalation, and ruining the chances of dialogue and understanding among the Lebanese. These constants and basics were in themselves the grounds on which the Casablanca summit resolution was based to solve the Lebanese crisis and from which the Arab tripartite committee was formed to achieve this goal.

The Lebanese masses were hoping that the Casablanca summit's views on a solution would be translated into practical measures on the ground which would entrench the unity and Arab identity of Lebanon and block the efforts of the conspiracy to fragment and partition it. In return, the agent 'Awn clique rejected the Casablanca summit resolutions, put obstacles in the way of the tripartite committee's work, and intentionally sought to escalate the fighting with the aim of ruining the Arab resolution and hampering Arab efforts. This is because 'Awn's agent clique seeks to implement plans that directly contradict the Arab solution and the prime interests of Lebanon and the Arab nation.

This is why the surprise, regret, and legitimate questions arose. The latter were expressed by the Lebanese people in reaction to the halt in the Arab tripartite committee's work, especially the reactions registered by nationalist Lebanon represented by its national front and its national, progressive, and pan-Arab forces and parties. These forces are the ones fighting the Zionist enemy, continuing the solid resistance to liberate the south from occupation, and increasing their efforts and struggle to preserve Lebanon's unity and Arab identity.

Foremost among the questions are these: Is it in the interest of Lebanon and the Arab nation to give 'Awn and his agent clique the justification to continue the destructive plan to fragment, tear apart, and transform Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate and base for Israeli aggression and destruction against Lebanon and the Arab nation?

Is it in the interest of Lebanon and the Arab world to ignore Lebanon's nationalist position represented by the vast majority of the Lebanese people and to provide cover for the agent clique which is siding with the Zionist enemy and taking part in implementing its plans and conspiracies?

'Awn and his agent clique are responsible for obstructing and rejecting all solutions. His alliance with the Zionist enemy and the fascist regime in Iraq forms a great danger to Lebanon's unity and Arab identity. Therefore, it poses a danger to the whole Arab nation.

Proceeding from this, and despite the statement issued by the Arab tripartite committee, the interests of Lebanon and the Arab world require a resumption of Arab action based on the Casablanca summit resolutions. This action should systematically lead to salvation and solving the crisis, by first realizing its nature, understanding it, and by sticking to the basics and constants which have become Lebanese and Arab constants. Foremost among these constants are the following: the preservation of Lebanon's unity, political reforms, equality and justice

among Lebanese, combining efforts and potentials to liberate the south from the Israeli occupation, and thwarting Israel's tools and agents—the enemies of Lebanon, its people, and the Arab nation.

Egyptian Unions' 'No' to Israeli Ties Cited

PM0808142489 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 1 Aug 89 pp 1, 11

[Unattributed report: "Egyptian Workers: We Have Rejected All Normalization Attempts with Zionists"]

[Text] Nicosia, SANA—Ahmad al-'Imadi, chairman of the Egyptian Workers Unions Federation and deputy speaker of the Egyptian Consultative Council, has affirmed that the Egyptian Workers Federation has refused, and still refuses, to normalize relations with the Israeli Workers Federation, the Histadrut, and has turned down all the latter's attempts to deal with the Egyptian federation.

In an interview with the magazine AL-MAWQIF AL-'ARABI, published in Nicosia yesterday, he said: In view of the savage and inhuman treatment of the fraternal Palestinian people at the hands of the Israeli troops and settlers in the occupied territory, I believe that if there were anything stronger than the rejection of normalization we would have done it because the history of the Histadrut proves that it is more extreme than the so-called extremists in Israel, despite its claims, in international circles, of concern for workers and human rights.

The Egyptian Workers Federation's chairman reaffirmed his federation's support for Palestinian workers in occupied Palestine, adding that the intifadah [uprising] is charting the way to the liberation of the Arab territories.

Rally Marks Egyptian Revolution Anniversary

PM0808141689 Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 30 Jul 89 pp 1, 11

[Unattributed report: "Socialist Unionist Party Marks 23 July Revolution Anniversary"]

[Excerpts] Aleppo, SANA—The Socialist Unionist Party in Aleppo held a speech rally Friday on the occasion of the 37th anniversary of the 23 July Revolution in Arab Egypt.

Comrade Safi Abu-Dan, member of the Aleppo branch command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, made a speech in which he said that it was natural and historically imperative that the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the 23 July Revolution would join in their rejection of suspect military pacts and all forms of foreign influence.

It was natural, he added, that the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party led the Syrian masses in the first unity experiment in contemporary Arab history. [passage omitted]

He reaffirmed that the "Arab solidarity against the Zionist challenge" slogan raised by Arab Syria stemmed from its conviction that Arab resources and capabilities should be mobilized against the enemy collectively, not separately.

In conclusion, Comrade Abu-Dan pledged to continue the struggle under comrade Hafiz al-Asad's historic leadership until victory and liberation. [passage omitted]

Other speeches made at the rally hailed the 23 July Revolution led by the late President Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir in Egypt and emphasized that Syria under the leadership of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, will remain the solid rock on which all imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary plots will founder.

The speakers pledged to continue the struggle under the historic leadership of comrade and fighter Hafiz al-Asad.

Information Minister Returns From Harare 7 Aug

JN0808085089 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Text] Information Minister Muhammad Salman returned to Damascus last night after having led the Syrian delegation to the media coordination council of the information ministers of the nonaligned states held recently in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe.

Earlier, the council adopted a set of resolutions and recommendations to bolster media cooperation among the nonaligned states.

Afghanistan

Pakistani Charge Summoned to Foreign Ministry

LD0908164889 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Pakistan's charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Ministry this afternoon and the following points were conveyed to him by the director of the first Political Department:

In the continuation of the Republic of Afghanistan's protests over Pakistan's violations of provisions of the Geneva accords, the Pakistani authorities' state terrorism, interference with, and invasion into the Republic of Afghanistan have intensified. Although the Pakistani authorities' attention has been drawn to this fact repeatedly; the violations not only continue, but have increased through the dispatch of arms to the Republic of Afghanistan.

For instance, yesterday, 8 August, 11 rockets were fired at the city of Kabul. As a result, 1 person was martyred and 13 others injured, a large number of houses were destroyed, and a military ammunition depot caught fire.

The Government of Afghanistan lodges its strong protest with the Government of Pakistan over these terrorist acts, which are carried out with the assistance of the Government of Pakistan, and strongly condemns them. It demands that the Pakistani authorities prevent these kinds of violations and interventions, otherwise the responsibility of their grave consequences will rest with the Pakistani authorities.

Najibullah Calls For Aid to Terrorists' Victims

LD0908185189 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Regarding the organization of extending urgent assistance to the victims of terrorist attacks by our people's murderers, who have received losses as a result of the launching of missiles during recent days, Esteemed Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, issued instructions today [9 August] to the relevant officials.

In order to implement effectively the measures taken by the Council of Ministers esteemed president of the Republic of Afghanistan issued instructions that preparatory commissions to extend assistance to the victims should be created in all precincts of Kabul city. The vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, ministers, members of the National Front Executive Committee, leadership delegations of the social organizations and political parties, and credible local personalities, should be included in the composition of the commissions.

It will be the duty of these commissions to organize the government assistance in the respective precincts and to take care of the victims. They should also organize the immediate dispatch of the injured persons to the hospitals and to provide transportion means; and to control carefully the contingency plans of the Council of Ministers and relevant organs.

The esteemed president of the Republic of Afghanistan said that the preparatory commission has the duty to establish close contact with the people and to take care of the victims at the suitable time, and to cooperate with the people.

According to another report, for the purpose of sympathizing and assisting the bereaved families and victims of the terrorist attacks in Kabul by the Afghan people's murderers, who were directly supported by Pakistan and the United States, Esteemed Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, has donated 15 days' wages; Vice Presidents 'Abdul Rahim Hatif, 'Abdul Hamid Mohtat, and Dr 'Abdul Wahid Sorabi, each donated 15 days' wages; heads of departments of the Presidency 2 days' wages each ; and personnel of the Presidency apparatus each 1 day of their wages donated to Account No 5050 of the Bank of Afghanistan which is being opened for this purpose.

Orders Urgent Assistance

LD0908201289 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Regarding the organization of urgent assistance for the victims of terrorist attacks by the murderers of our people who have received losses as a result of the launching of missiles during recent days, Esteemed President Najibullah issued instructions today to the relevant officials.

In order to implement effectively the measures taken by the Council of Ministers, the esteemed Afghan president issued instructions that preparatory commissions to extend assistance to the victims should be created in all precincts of Kabul. The vice chairmen of the Council of Ministers, ministers, members of the National Front Executive Committee, leadership delegations of the social organizations and political parties, and credible local personalities should be included in the composition of the commissions.

It will be the duty of these commissions to organize government assistance in their respective precincts and to take care of the victims. They also should organize the immediate dispatch of injured persons to hospitals, providing the means of transportation, and control carefully the contingency plans of the Council of Ministers and relevant organs.

The esteemed Afghan president said that the preparatory commissions have the duty of establishing close contacts with the people, take care of the victims within a suitable period of time, and cooperate with the people. [passage omitted]

IRNA Says Mujahidin Commander 'Poisoned'

LD1008083189 Tehran IRNA in English 0756 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Peshawar, Aug. 10, IRNA—A well-known Afghan mujahidin commander in Afghanistan has been found poisoned to death Monday [7 August]. Haji 'Abdul Latif of the Islamic National Front, known as the "Lion of Qandahar," was 75.

Abdul Latif has participated in hundreds of battles against the Russian forces during their occupation of Afghanistan in the western Qandhar Province in the past ten years, the Afghan Press Center reported. He was highly respected among the mujahidin ranks.

An inquiry into his death will be carried out, the Islamic National Front headed by Pir Ahmad Gilani has announced.

Missiles Hit Residential Areas, Casualties Noted

LD0908170189 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The professional murderers of our Muslim and faithful quenched their thirst for blood by shedding the blood of a number of our faithful compatriots this afternoon. BAKHTAR's military section reports that murder groups, with the complete instigation and support of the Pakistani state terrorism, launched 16 surface-to-surface missiles at residential areas and stained their dirty hands with the blood of little chidren, women, and old men.

As a result of this inhuman and anti-Islamic terrorist action by the criminals, one of our compatriots was martyred and 9 others were wounded. The wounded were transferred to hospitals and their condition is improving. Material losses have also been inflicted as a result of this shocking crime by the has-beens.

Mujahidin Capture 4 Security Posts Near Kabul

BK0908154889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin have captured four Kabul regime security posts at Lalandar near Kabul. After a fierce battle, the Kabul regime troops fled leaving behind bodies of their 20 compatriots. The mujahidin also shot down a helicopter in the area. They also attacked military positions in the (Bagh-e Dawood) area of Kabul, hitting one tank and destroying an ammunition dump.

The mujahidin also foiled an attack on their positions by Kabul regime forces in Konduz, killing or wounding several Kabul soldiers and hitting five tanks.

Rebel Munitions Captured in Nangarhar

LD0908173489 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Hero units of the Armed Forces based in Nangarhar Province mounted search and mopping up operations in the area of Chaparhar as a result of which 45 mortar shells, 15 boxes of machine gun ammunition, 116 rockets, 1500 DShK ammunition, 27 anti-personnel and anti-vehicle mines, and 25 boxes of machine gun ammunition have been captured from Pakistan-backed extremists.

Joint enemy force, which has obtained nothing but defeat and retreat in the battlefield, yesterday [8 August] fired with heavy weapons on the residential areas of the city of Jalalabad and the surrounding areas and the security posts around the city. It had the support of Pakistan's XI Corps.

Our Armed Forces replied to our people's enemies with crushing blows as a result of which 27 enemies were killed and 26 others were injured. A number of Pakistanis and Saudi Arabian mercenaries are the among those killed. Two sets of missiles, three DShK's, three rocket launchers, two sets of radios, three vehicles loaded with arms and ammunition, and a depot of arms have been destroyed.

According to another report a murder group associated with Pakistan fired with heavy weapons on some areas of Khowst. As a result one armed forces member and one civilian were injured. As a result of reciprocal blows of the armed forces eight of the enemy were killed and 15 others were injured.

Bangladesh

Ershad Calls Up Troops for Rescue Operations

BK1008003089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1807 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 9 (AFP)—Troops were called out for rescue and relief operations in northeastern Bangladesh where two weeks of monsoon flooding engulfed fresh areas Wednesday [9 August], state-run television reported.

The report said members of the Armed Forces had been deployed under order of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad for emergency rescue of hundreds of thousands of marooned people "in view of deterioration of the flood situation."

The directive of General Ershad followed his weekend visit to flooded sub-districts in Sylhet Region where three people reportedly died overnight due to drowning and diarrhea, putting the toll in the two-week calamity at 56.

Earlier reports said flood waters from overflowing hill rivers had submerged vast areas in worst-hit Zakiganj and five other sub-districts in Sylhet, which borders the Indian state of Assam.

About half a million people were stranded since last week, when the swollen Kushiara river burst its protective embankments at 19 places.

Ershad Urges Steps Against Proletariat Party

BK0908165289 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] President Ershad has called on the police force to step up the drive against the armed miscreants and bring them to book. Addressing the police officers in Dhaka today, he called on them to put in all their efforts to recover arms from illegal possession and ensure law and order and safety of the citizens. President Ershad said it is our duty to catch and punish the persons who are indulging in nefarious criminal activities in the name of so-called Sarbahara [proletariat] politics. The president was informed that 346 active members, including 12 leaders, of the so-called Sarbahara Party have been arrested in 24 districts. Besides, 1,983 criminals have been arrested in connection with various cases. The president was also shown a big catche of arms recovered from the members of the Sarbahara Party in the drive launched throughout the country since the 1st of June last. Home Minister Mahmudul Hasan and Inspector General of Police A.R. Khandokar also spoke on the occasion.

Minister Appointed; Navy Chief Tenure Extended

BK0908163889 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The president has appointed Kazi Feroze Rashid as the cabinet minister. He administered the oath of office to the newly appointed minister at Rashtrapati Bhavan [presidential palace] this evening. Kazi Feroze Rashid has been allocated the portfolio of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications.

Meanwhile, the president has extended the tenure of appointment of chief of naval staff, Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmed, for a further period of 1 year from the 15th of this month.

India

Sri Lankan Workers Reluctant To Unload Goods

BK1008091989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] India has taken up with the Sri Lankan Government the difficulties faced in unloading of Indian cargo at the Colombo Port. The commerce minister, Mr Dinesh Singh, told the Rajya Sabha today in a written reply that there are reports that port workers in Colombo are reluctant to unload Indian cargo because of the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna—People's Liberation Front] threat. Items like vehicles, spare parts, medicines and other food stuffs are affect by the boycott. Some the cargo meant for Sri Lanka is lying at Indian ports, the minister added.

No Actions Planned To Affect Nepalese Economy

BK1008090689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] India has reiterated that it will not take action in haste or other retaliatory measure which will affect the Nepalese economy. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, said this in the Lok Sabha when his attention was drawn to restrictions imposed by Nepal on trade and Indian currency. He said the Nepal Rashtriya [National] Bank announced a new procedure for the exchange of Indian rupees as a sequel to restrictions announced in the Nepal budget last month. He said the government is assessing the implications. The minister made it clear that from the Indian side there are practically no restrictions in currency movement across the Indo-Nepal border.

Expeditious Financial Misconduct Probe Planned

BK0908161989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] investigations into cases of financial irregularities found by the Kudal Commission of Inquiry will be expedited and legal action taken against those held guilty. Announcing this in the Rajya Sabha today, the home minister, Mr Buta Singh, said the inquiry has opened up issues which threaten the security of the country. He was replying to clarifications sought by members of his statement on the commission's report made in the House yesterday. The commission has indicted the Gandhi Peace Foundation and three related organizations as well as several political and social personalities for major financial misconduct.

Ruling out the banning of the voluntary organizations which have been indicted by the commission, the minister said that the government will have a strict watch over them and act when necessary. The government, he said, will not allow the sovereignty and integrity of the country to be compromised. Toward the end of Mr Singh's reply, almost the entire opposition walked out when he referred to the finding of the Baidyalingam Commission indicting the relations of the former prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai. The opposition took objection to this and wanted to raise a point of order. This was not allowed by the chair.

The home minister said the commission has exposed some members of the opposition, particularly of the Janata Dal, who colluded with elements trying to destabilize the country. Even the commission has found that some of the indicted organizations played into the hands of the CIA.

Strongl
the co refuting the opposition charge that the timing of
said th mission's report is motivated, Mr Buta Singh
numbe delay in submitting the report was due to a
apprec of court cases which crippled its working. He
facts d ed the commission for making available the
opposi spite many hurdles. The minister asked the
just be n members not to denigrate the commission
use the findings are not palatable to them.

Replyi
bution to members' suggestions, Mr Singh said contri-
will ha foreign funds cannot be stopped altogether as it
ities. H per many positive social and educational activ-
regulat owever, such contributions are being strictly
d.

Gandh

***BK100* Cited on Opposition; Remarks on Sri Lanka**

0240 G 042089 Delhi Domestic Service in English
AT 10 Aug 89

[Text]
the dev he prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said
of the olution of power to the people is an integral part
to the evelopmental process. In an exclusive interview
we hav ombay-based weekly, BLITZ, Mr Gandhi said
nation realized that without devolution of power, the
is why annot accelerate the pace of development. That
why Na anchayati Raj [rural local bodies system], that is
Jawaha arpalika [urban local bodies system], that is why
of the r Rozgar Yojna [employment program] and such
to stren rograms have been initiated by the government
underli hen the hands of the people, the prime minister
ed.

Speakir
said de on a wide range of subjects, Mr Rajiv Gandhi
would elopment and devolution of power to the people
e major election issues for the Congress-I.

In a re
Rajiv erence to the 155-mm howitzer gun deal, Mr
wanted andhi said he would welcome if the opposition
opposit to make it an election issue. He charged the
Bofors ion with running away from the debate on the
only sta issue in parliament and asserted that they will
up the ind further exposed before the people if they take
issue during the elections.

Mr Gar
develop dhi emphasized that the electoral issue really is
power. iment and development means devolution of
people. The question is what are you going to do for the
people Mr Gandhi said, we are giving power to the
and pro in their own hands for their own development
merely ogress. The power to the people is meant not
visualiz to implement programs but also to help in their
ation and preparation.

The pri
governm ime minister dismissed the criticism that the
develop ent had introduced the scheme for economic
year say ment through devolution of power in the election
almost ying that an open debate had been commenced
tremend 3 years ago on all these vital issues. Visualizing a
global s dous scope and opportunity for India on the
poised f ene, Mr Gandhi said science and technology is
for a very rapid growth. He said this is the time to seize the opportunity. He pointed out that the opposition are a bunch of people without a clearcut or agreed foreign policy and without economic policies. He asserted that there is no way that the opposition can cope with the situation.

On Sri Lanka, the prime minister said, we went to that island country only for the security of the Tamils and promised them that India is the guarantor for the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement, which gave them security. We will fulfill that guarantee absolutely.

The prime minister was asked questions on several points like Indo-Nepal trade, Bangladesh refugees, and Kashmir saboteurs. Replying to questions, Mr Gandhi asserted we are fighting for India's independence, unity, and integrity and for India playing a much bigger role globally in the future.

50 Injured in Union Carbide Bhopal Plant Protest

BK1008053289 Hong Kong AFP in English 0516 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 10 (AFP)—Some 50 people were injured in a stampede that broke out after police charged protestors outside a Union Carbide facility in the central Indian city of Bhopal, site of the world's worst industrial disaster, press reports said Thursday [10 August].

Nearly 5,000 people gathered outside Union Carbide's research and development laboratory Wednesday and were planning to storm it in response to an opposition call for "public takeover" of the property, the INDIAN EXPRESS said.

A Union Carbide pesticides plant in Bhopal spewed a poisonous gas over the city in December 1984 in the world's worst industrial-environmental disaster. More than 3,300 people have since died after breathing the gas.

Opposition activists have rejected a 470 million dollar settlement as not going far enough to compensate the surviving victims, many thousands of whom have suffered permanent damage to their health.

As opposition leader and civil rights activist Swami Agnivesh delivered a speech Wednesday, the gathering outside the Union Carbide facility was attacked with stones from a neighboring building, the daily said.

Protestors then accused the police of "stage-managing" the stoning to disrupt the demonstration and attacked policemen, who responded with a baton-charge, the EXPRESS said.

The police action triggered a stampede which left some 50 people injured, some of whom were hospitalized, it said, adding that 700 protestors were arrested and sent to the Bhopal central jail. It did not say what they had been charged with.

The protest outside the Union Carbide facility came on the 42nd anniversary of the Quit India Movement which marked a turning point in the Indian struggle for freedom from British rule.

Opposition activists in Bhopal observed the day to demand takeover of all Union Carbide units in India. A prominent voluntary organisation had given a call for "Carbide Quit India Week."

13 Killed, 35 Injured in Haryana Bomb Blast

BK0908125789 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] In Haryana, at least 13 persons were killed and 35 seriously injured in a powerful bomb blast in a State Roadways bus near Karnal today. The ill-fated bus was coming from Ambala to Delhi. Reports say the bomb planted in the bus exploded when it reached the Karnal Lake Tourist Complex. The injured have been admitted to nearby hospitals. A general alert has been sounded all over the state. The state home minister, Professor Sampat Singh, and senior police officials have rushed to the spot. The Haryana chief minister, Mr Devi Lal, has condemned the blast. He announced ex gratia payment of 20,000 rupees to the next of kin of those killed in the blast and 10,000 rupees to the seriously injured. The union agriculture minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, has expressed sorrow over the death of the passengers in the blast.

General Alert in Delhi

BK0908160489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Excerpts] In Haryana, 13 persons were killed and 35 injured in a powerful bomb blast in a State Roadways bus near Karnal this evening. The ill-fated bus was on its way to Delhi from Kasauli in Himachal Pradesh. The bomb planted in the bus exploded when it reached the Karnal Lake tourist complex. Our correspondent, G.C. Lakhotra, after visiting the site, reports that the blast was so sudden and powerful that the left side of the bus was blown off and its whole roof was lifted up. [passage omitted]

The Punjab governor, Mr S.S. Ray, while condemning the bomb blast has urged the people to maintain harmony and use utmost restraint and not to get provoked over the incident at this juncture. The union agriculture minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, has expressed sorrow over the death of the passengers in the blast.

Meanwhile, a general alert has been sounded in Haryana, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, and Delhi and security measures have been tightened following the bomb blast.

In Delhi, people have been advised not to touch any unclaimed object lying anywhere and promptly inform the police.

Special Battalion Set Up To Check 'Terrorism'

BK0908155589 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] In Punjab, a special operation battalion of the state armed police is being raised to effectively tackle the problem of terrorism in the state. The director general of state police, Mr K.P.S. Gill, told AIR [All India Radio] Chandigarh correspondent that four of the six companies of this battalion will become operational in Amritsar District within the next few days. The policemen who were recently imparted commando training will form part of this battalion.

Mr Gill said that putting up of barbed wire and the joint patrolling being undertaken by the Indian and Pakistani security forces along the border have made the crossing by the terrorists more difficult. He said extra force has been deployed in the terrorist-infested areas of Amritsar District to check the terrorist crimes.

Assam Government Offers Talks With ABSU

BK1008004089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1752 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 9 (AFP)—The government in India's northeastern state of Assam Wednesday [9 August] offered to hold peace talks with tribal militants campaigning for a separate state, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said.

Assam Chief Minister Prafulla Kumar Mahanta announced the decision as a 15-day general strike sponsored by tribal militants ended Wednesday, after leaving some 32 people dead during the period, PTI said.

Mr. Mahanta told PTI in Guwahati, the Assamese capital, that his government was ready to hold immediate talks with the All Bodo Students Union (ABSU), which is spearheading the campaign.

The talks could be held before August 15, India's independence anniversary, the news agency quoted Mr. Mahanta as saying.

PTI did not report any immediate reaction from the ABSU leadership in Assam, which borders Bangladesh and is ruled by Mr. Mahanta's opposition regional Assam People's Council.

It said the situation was returning to normal after the 15-day work stoppage, which was mainly limited to Assam's Kokrajhar and Darrang Districts, both strongholds of tribal militancy.

Public establishments, educational institutions and banks resumed work Wednesday, PTI said.

Some 200 ABSU activists were arrested during the strike period for violence, which included bombings, arson and attacks on police personnel, PTI said.

The ABSU campaign flared in February to press for the division of Assam into two parts to establish a separate state for the state's 1.4 million tribespeople, amid allegations of discrimination by the state government.

Some 150 people have died in violence linked to the campaign.

Congress-I Calls Strike in Andhra Pradesh

BK1008090089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, normal life was affected today following a state-wide bundh [strike] called by the Congress-I. In Hyderabad, most shops, business houses, and educational institutions were closed. Banks and government offices had a thin attendance. The state buses were withdrawn as a precautionary measure. A number of Congress-I workers have been arrested.

The bundh also evoked widespread response in Vijayawada, Cuddapah, Guntur, and other places. In Vijayawada, 70 Congress-I workers have been taken into custody. No violence has been reported from any part of the state so far.

The bundh was called to protest against some remarks of the chief minister, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, against the prime minister. It was also to protest against the alleged inadequacy of the flood relief measures undertaken by the state government.

Paper Comments on U.S. Anti-India Propaganda

BK0908113589 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 31 Jul 89 p 13

[K. Subrahmanyam article entitled "U.S. at the Old Game"]

[Text] In 1974, following the Pokharan nuclear test the United States, Canada and other Western countries joined together in applying pressure on India to discontinue the nuclear tests. The Indian leadership buckled under the pressure and discontinued further testing. Encouraged by that precedent, the United States Administration presumably is attempting to repeat that exercise and this time try to dissuade India from continuing further tests of Agni missile. Given our past record one cannot blame the U.S. Administration and the senators from making their attempts. One hopes that India of 1989 is not the India of 1974 and this time the country will be able to rebuff such monopolistic approach of some dominant powers arrogantly establishing the doctrine that missiles and sophisticated technologies are to be controlled solely by them and the developing nations are to be prevented by various means from catching up with them in technology. In their attempt, with their control of world-wide mass media a significant amount of disinformation has been generated to mislead both the American people and the rest of the world.

The United States built its atom bomb with the help of dozens of emigre scientists who fled from Europe. So was the case with the hydrogen bomb. The U.S. missile program was initiated by a famous Chinese scientist Dr Qian Xuesen who as a colonel in the U.S. Army recruited all the talented German rocket scientists from the Peenemunde establishments in Germany at the end of the Second World War to build missiles for the U.S. This included Dr Werner von Braun who launched the manned mission to moon. It also included a number of ex-Nazis whom the U.S. protected and shielded. Even today the U.S. has borrowed the Soviet technology for their neutral particle beam [term as published] for their Star Wars.

Given this background it is amusing to read about some U.S. congressmen and so-called experts talking of India having obtained technology for its missile from abroad. One expert even talked of the Agni's nose cone resembling the German one. So far only German missiles have been fired by the Germans who worked in the missile and space programs of the United States and Germany by itself has no independent missile program.

Now comes the announcement that U.S. would not sell to India combined acceleration and vibration climatic test system (CAVCTS) in order to prevent this country from developing missiles. This reminds one of a Tamil proverb about a cantankerous person hiding the comb of the bride with the object of preventing the marriage from taking place. The engineering firms in India have the capability to make the (CAVCTS) equipment and the Indian program will go through without any U.S. help. The Canadians stopped their aid to our nuclear program in 1974. Though there were delays we pressed ahead with our reactor program. Now the Canadians would like to come back but we have no need for them.

It is not a coincidence the Americans have launched a simultaneous propaganda campaign about Indian sale of chemicals to West Asia which allegedly could be used to make chemical weapons. The chemical in question, thionyl chloride, is two steps away from any chemical weapon and is not in the list of precursor materials drawn up in Paris and in Geneva which are not to be sold. In fact the only process in which this chemical can be used to make a poison gas can be carried out more easily by the cheaper and commonly available hydrochloric acid. Thionyl chloride is used commonly for detergents, cosmetics, and many other innocuous substances.

The fact of the matter is the poison gas plant in Iraq was built with West German help. The U.S. controls are so sloppy that Israelis took away from that country hundreds of kilograms of weapon grade enriched uranium and Pakistanis Kryton switches. Pakistan got all its equipment for its uranium enrichment plant from Western Europe. Just now the U.S. is reported to be applying

pressure on France not to sell the vibration climatic test machine to Brazil. Earlier the U.S. failed to stop the West Germans from transferring to Brazil technology on uranium enrichment.

What the Americans overlook is that there are thousands of scientists in the Western world who have worked in the chemical, nuclear and missile programs who can be hired at appropriate prices by rich Arab countries. They are helping Iraq, Egypt, and Argentina in CONDOR missile program. The U.S. threw out Dr Qian Xuesen in 1955 and he went to his native land and built the Chinese missiles. The British scientists disbanded from the Manhattan atomic bomb project fabricated the British bomb. The American approach to stopping other countries from having weapons they develop with brains borrowed from the rest of the world is the same as that of gods in the Greek fable who wanted to preventy mankind form having the secret of fire. But Prometheus stole the secret of fire for the benefit of mankind.

The American Administration and Congress are still to reconcile themselves to the inexorable fact that the U.S. is no longer the hegemonic power it was and it no longer controls the scope and extent of technology it did in the fifties. Western Europe and Japan are its competitors and a vast amount of technology is available outside the U.S. while the Western Europeans and the Japanese may go along with the U.S. in terms to paying lip-service to U.S. sponsored missile control regime the Western governments have no control over the movement of talented personnel or exports of subsystems. The man who designed the nuclear export control trigger list, Claude Zangger of Switzerland, himself authorized export of subsystems required for the uranium hexaflouride circulation system to Pakistan as that system was not in the trigger list since he did not think that a developing nation could set up a uranium enrichment plant.

India has proposed that both nuclear weapons and chemical weapons should be outlawed and eliminated and there should be a total nondiscriminatory verification regime for all nations.

This is the only way in which nuclear and chemical wapons can be eliminated and the world can be made safe from proliferation both the ongoing one by the industrialized nations and China and the impending proliferation by threshold countries. [sentence as published] But the U.S. and its supporters unrealistically hope to keep such weapons in their cartelized control and prevent the other nations, especially non-white developing nations, from having them. They have developed a strategy of "Discriminate Deterrence" by which they aim to use missiles of high accurancy with stand off capabilities in developing world even while preaching non-proliferation of such weapons to those countries which are the intended victims of such punitive coercive diplomacy by the U.S. and other industrial countries. They oppose Gorbachev's plea for stopping missile modernization and insist that missile modernization is a necessity for their own security. At the same time they argue that other nations should not develop missiles. To recall the words of late Ambassador V.C. Trivedi during Geneva non-proliferation treaty negotiations in 1965 they want to disarm the unarmed.

Attempting to stop missile and chemical weapons proliferation even while the industrialized nations continued to proliferate them is a futile exercise. The NPT [Nonproliferation Treaty] could not stop Israel, India, Pakistan, Brazil, Argentina and South Africa from developing adequate know-how to make the weapons. The missile non-proliferation regime does not stop Israel from developing **Jericho II**, China from selling CSS-2 missiles to Saudi Arabia, **Silkworm** missiles to Iran and M-9 missiles to Syria. The joint Iraq-Egypt-Argentinian missile project is not going to stop, nor Pakistani missile projects. As the West increases economic pressures on China, they would sell more missiles to Arabs to earn foreign exchange.

The chemical weapons are very easy to make for any country which has a pesticide industry. Hundreds of European scientists are waiting to sell their services. Even this international situation which is beyond U.S. capacity to control it would do well to listen to the Indian advice and join in a cooperative international effort to ban and then eliminate chemical and nuclear weapons. If the U.S. continues to persist in its hegemonistic dreams then India will have to protect its own national security in the best possible way. So long as "discriminate deterrence" is pursued by U.S, China continues to have missiles and sell them, India cannot afford to give up its missile program.

Today the U.S. has no economic clout vis-a-vis India. If they think of reducing aid to India they should give thought to the possibility that India might be compelled to sell technology including various kinds of weapon technology. India has been exercising extraordinary restraint in regard to transfer of weapon technology. The U.S. Congress may now refuse to sell India combined acceleration and climatic vibration test machine. When India develops those machines in the next few years the U.S. will have no hold on India selling it to other countries. A noted U.S. strategist, who worked on President Reagan's White House staff, Geoffrey Kemp, recently warned his countrymen India was not Libya and it would be counterproductive to club them together. Some of the U.S. senators and congressmen with their parochialist fixations may not be aware that even in their own country the Indian community has contributed significantly to the U.S. scientific achievements. It should be made known to them that India has a reservoir of scientific and technical talent. The Indian missile program should be pressed ahead with full vigor without undue worry about U.S. pressure.

Paper Analyzes Current Relations With China

BK0808111589 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 26 Jul 89 p 11

[T. Karki Hussain article entitled "Beijing's Attitude; Positive Change?"]

[Text] The rendezvous at Beijing should give New Delhi some measure of relief on the diplomatic front. Besieged in wrangles with Nepal and Sri Lanka, India finds itself the object of criticism for acting arrogantly with its smaller neighbors. Lately, China has fared worse, having lost the enormous fund of goodwill and empathy the world over. China's tarnished image is due to an unwarranted use of force against its own people and bears no resemblance to India's plight. However, both India and China find themselves in a tight corner where their external relations are concerned. For China, its internal political crisis has negatively intervened in its most crucial relationship. In quite a dramatic manner, the unthinkable has happened. At least for the present, there is a distinct cooling-off between the US and China. Ironically, just as the Chinese were looking forward to a hassle-free relationship with the Soviet Union, while consolidating their cosy equation with the US, the aborted student movement has produced a major upset vis-a-vis Washington.

Earlier, the Chinese leadership had reassured their fretful American friends that the Sino-Soviet normalization would in no way affect ties with them. China's ambition to emerge fast as a modern state largely depends on the uninterrupted flow of technology and captial of the industrial economies. From that perspective, the US and its allies would obviously have precedence over the socialist countries which themselves seek Western assistance. China's new-found rapport with Moscow, on the other hand, was conceived as an adjunct to its growing interaction with the West. The basic assumption remains valid but the ground has shifted somewhat.

China's domestic politics has made it difficult to pursue the policy on the above lines. The Chinese would like to repair the damage to Sino-US relations at the earliest and the US would be more than willing to respond as has been evident in its official pronouncements. Nevertheless it is a humbling experience for a proud leadership which wants to retain the open-door policy, but is unable to accommodate the new generation which has come closer to the west politically. Willy-nilly, at the official level, China's strained relations with the US have created more room for the Soviets than is acknowledged. Deng Xiaoping's avowed opposition to glasnost of the Soviet variety notwithstanding, the differences between the two have narrowed down. The 18-point joint communique issued at the end of the summit did not bring about the change. Caught between the threat of capitalist restoration on the one hand and progressive democratization within the system on the other, the Chinese rulers might choose the lesser evil, while pretending to frown upon the glasnost experiment undergoing in other communist countries.

Sino-Indian relations do not fall within the same parameters. They remain narrowly structured and operate at a formal level within set limits. Psychologically too, there exists a wide gap between the two. However, New Delhi's decision to play down the enormity of the PLA [People's Liberation Army] action drew flak in several quarters. Its domestic critics considered a postponement of the Joint Working Group meeting as the least gesture of solidarity with the victims of the crackdown.

Undeterred by popular indignation which incidentally never went overboard in its criticism of the Chinese hardliners, the government went about its business as per schedule. Needless to say, New Delhi's cautious response was influenced by the Chinese eagerness to play the host, if only to convince the skeptics that the internal situation was normal and the conduct of its foreign policy would in no way deviate from its set course.

Frankly, New Delhi is in no position to influence the Chinese developments one way or the other. This dos not fully explain its reluctance to condemn the discredited Li Peng government. However, its calculations are of a different order. India's muted reaction is obviously not based on any personal factor. In fact the government was momentarily alarmed at the turn of events which could spell future instability in China's external dealings. In the Indian experience, the linkage between domestic disorder and bilateral tension remains vivid and fresh as ever. The lead given by Deng Xiaoping in 1979 to deemphasize political struggle and to follow a pragmatic course has enabled China to correct its past imbalances to some extent. As a result, China has dropped its confrontationist attitude vis-a-vis India. The normalizing trends in Sino-Indian relations have slowly evolved.

India has a vested interest in the status quo. There is an implicit quid pro quo from the Chinese side. Again, it is not a question of personal equation. In the Chinese view, after considerable dithering, it was Mr Rajiv Gandhi's decision to take the bull by its horns that broke the uneasy suspense on the border. It is reasonable to assume that they would wish him success in the coming polls if only to ensure continuity of the process initiated last December. They are fully cognizant of the nuances as well as the crudities of electoral politics and the tightrope walk for the ruling party in the coming months. With minimal expectations on their side, they have symbolically made all the motions of discussing the matter even if the exercise remains confined to declaration of intent. As for New Delhi, the Chinese developments have baled it out of an awkward situation of freezing the border negotiations on its own volition. Not that the Chinese would not have obliged New Delhi to take it easy in an election year. Reportedly, discussions

on procedural matters which took place between Mr S.K. Singh and Mr Liu Shuqing were guided by the political understanding reached between their respective Prime Ministers in December 1988. But for that key input, specifically from the Indian side, the talks would have been indistinguishable from the previous eight rounds of futile encounter between the two official teams.

Though there are no tangible results to display, the outcome of the Joint Working Group meeting may at best be adjudged as fulfilling a mutual need. This is the general impression conveyed at home and abroad. The exercise, limited by its very nature as well as the circumstances of its timing, has not produced any breakthrough. However, New Delhi has perceived a positive change in the Chinese attitude on regional issues although their perceptions and interests continue to remain apart. While China would not volunteer to pull out of fire New Delhi's chestnuts, it has demonstrated its "neutrality" on India's current imbroglio in Nepal and Sri Lanka. Taken at its face value, New Delhi has deemed Beijing's assurance as conciliatory, if nothing more.

Iran

Indirect Talks With U.S. 'To Begin in Days'

LD1008075689 Tehran IRNA in English 0745 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 10, IRNA—Indirect talks between the United States and Iran is expected to begin in days to solve the hostage crisis, an Iranian newspaper said quoting observers.

It said the talks would be conducted through a third country, probably Pakistan, but added that similar missions in the past had failed for lack of concrete proposals by Washington.

"Political observers... believe that in the next few days we should expect certain moves towards mediation, of course unofficially," said the TEHRAN TIMES in its editorial Thursday [10 August].

The paper which has been closely following the issue said mediation would come through countries which had good relations both with Tehran and Washington.

"These observers give the best to Mr Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, foreign minister of Pakistan."

It did not indicate whether the minister would hold talks in Tehran and if so, when.

But in the past whenever the U.S. sent an envoy to Tehran, the mission came to nothing because of "lack of substantive proposals by the U.S."

Meanwhile an aide to President-Elect Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani was quoted as expressing surprise over the official U.S. rejection of releasing frozen Iranian assets in return for Iran's help in freeing American hostages in Lebanon.

The TEHRAN TIMES quoted an "observer" close to Hashemi-Rafsanjani as saying that Iran had reacted to a report which said President George Bush had offered Iran the release of its assets if Iran helped release the hostages.

"It's really strange, first the U.S. offers assets for hostages deal and then the spokesman of the White House says that his country is not ready to pay ransom.

"Now the question arises as to who is paying ransom and who wants the ransom?"

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Monday that the U.S. was not willing to link Iranian assets worth billions of dollars in arms and cash, to the hostage issue.

"What Iran meant was that the move to unfreeze the Iranian assets would have been taken in Iran as a goodwill gesture on behalf of the U.S.," the aide told the TEHRAN TIMES.

"It's a clear policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran i.e. not to pay ransom and not to receive ransom... what Iran has said more than once is that Tehran is ready to cooperate... on humanitarian grounds."

In its editorial the English-language daily said "no one takes... very seriously" the U.S. rejection of a money for hostages deal because it was an American tradition to carry out certain strategic policies in secret.

It said Washington was aware that by releasing Iranian assets frozen illegally for almost ten years, [it] could recover to some extent the damage to American prestige in the world legal community.

"This will also, no doubt, be interpreted as a step towards reduction of American enmity towards Iran (which would be) a major step towards the normalization of relations."

It added: "The U.S. is well aware that fulfilling the Iranian demand could be a very easy step, and very practical too."

KEYHAN Assails U.S. Rapprochement Attempts

LD0908142289 Tehran IRNA in English 1416 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 9, IRNA—The Persian daily KEYHAN said in a commentary Wednesday that the Iranian Government would prefer to wash hands of the Iranian assets in the U.S. banks rather than agree to come to

terms with Washington by outraging ideological principles. It was commenting on Washington's attempts this week for rapprochement with Iran.

KEYHAN said the Islamic revolution will have "squared accounts with America only once it has pulled down america from the position o bullying and plundering others," and that until that time the United States can only hope to continue to lose as a result of absence of relations with Iran.

The daily said Washington appreciates the true value of re-established relations with Iran because it knows fully well that if antagonism against the United States should continue as it has since the culmination of the Islamic revolution it will eventually shatter the "massive but empty pillars of the American empire."

KEYHAN questioned the truth of the Americans' claim that Iran will benefit from re-establishing relations with Washington refuting the statement by saying that re-establishment of relations with a government which promotes "crime, treason, mischief and bullying will only defile the immaculate, and uncompromising profile of the Islamic revolution in the eyes of the oppressed people of the world."

The daily said rather than hope for re-establishing relations with Iran the Americans would as well hope for continued frustration in their relations with Iran.

Tehran Radio Notes Shamir-Bush Conversation

LD1008120889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir's adviser has announced that yesterday, within a few hours after the attack against a column of Israeli forces in southern Lebanon, Shamir had a telephone conversation with George Bush concerning greater cooperation between the U.S. and Israel's positions with regard to the hostage crisis in Lebanon. According to AP, he refrained from giving his opinion on further details but said that Shamir, in his conversation with Bush, once again stressed Israel's decision not to release Shaykh 'Ubayd before the Israeli and foreign hostages are freed.

New President's Remarks on Hostages Praised

NC0908114789 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 Aug 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Hashemi-Rafsanjani's Call Should Be Heeded]

[Text] At his first Friday prayer sermon yesterday since his investiture as Iran's 5th president, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani explicitly said that there were more civilized ways to solve the Lebanese hostage crisis than through resort to force and filibuster.

In particular Hashemi-Rafsanjani directed his remarks at the U.S. President George Bush administration, warning the U.S. to desist from any action that smacked of intimidation and bullying. He was obviously reacting to Washington's reported plans to retaliate with military action if the Lebanese group carried out their death threats against American hostages they hold. No one interested in seeing peace and stability in the region can fail to agree with his call to America to accept a "logical and reasonable" way out of the present impasse. "Come and be reasonable. We will also help to solve the issues (of Lebanon) so that people of the region can live in peace and quiet."

After this, the ball has now been swiped right across to the U.S. court. It will depend very much on them whether they wish to act with caution and prudence and accept Hashemi-Rafsanjani's move amenably, or to follow the brash foreign policy courses they have taken in the past under President Reagan's tutelage. If the latter, they are surely inviting trouble for themselves and greater confusion in the entire region.

It is with a sense of apprehension mixed with hope that we look forward to developments on the hostage crisis and towards a settlement of peaceful and stable atmosphere in the region. Israel should not be allowed to get away with its mischief and those provoked by them should be restrained by too extreme actions that can only lead to turmoil.

Nevertheless, Hashemi-Rafsanjani's remarks are timely and are in the right spirit. Iran has always stood against terrorism which is inexcusable on every ground and no solution to the ills of the world. No, not even if it is condoned, or condonable on the presumption that desperate ills need desperate remedies. All ill-conceived actions, threats of war and intimidation in the end can only add to the momentum of a vicious circle of evil that has gripped a world controlled by superpowers with selfish vision. Hashemi-Rafsanjani's was a call to sobriety and should be taken up.

U.S. Officials Admit to 'Espionage Network'

LD0908123189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] U.S. officials have admitted that the recent arrests of members of a vast U.S. espionage network in Iran reflect the many difficulties afflicting the CIA in its endeavors to gather information from Iran. The American state radio [as heard], broadcasting this report printed in THE NEW YORK TIMES quoting U.S. officials, adds that in the early part of the current Christian year, by discovering a spy network concerned with gathering secret information and documents related to Iran's military plans, ended one of the CIA's successful activities. This report adds that the annihilation of this network, U.S. analysts realized that the Iranians had discovered that network some months before and were

using it to pas on fabricated and incorrect information. This is the firs time that U.S. officials have admitted to the existence o the CIA's spy network and its disruption.

Majlis Offici l Regrets Higgins Execution
NC090812298 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 Aug 89 pp 1, 6

[Text] A lead ng parliamentarian yesterday expressed deep regret ov r the killing of a hostage in Lebanon but blamed Israel or the tragedy.

Head of the M lajlis Foreign Affairs Commission Sa'id Raja'i Khoras ni in an interview with the TEHRAN TIMES said, " deeply regret the reported killing of the U.S. hostage bu Israel should be blamed for the tragedy."

He was comme ting on the reported execution of Lieutenant Colonel Wi liam Higgins in Lebanon on Monday after the kidnapping of a Lebanese 'alim [scholar] by Israel.

He reiterated he stance of Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati who addressing a press conference on Monday morni g said that he condemned hostage taking and murder of he innocent people. Dr Velayati also said that Iran is nc t responsible for what is going on in Lebanon. He sa d that there is a difference between what the Israelis are doing and what individual groups in Lebanon are do ing.

Raja'i Khorasan said Israel was sponsoring state terrorism and kidnapping while the individual groups in Lebanon were operating without the assistance of any government and on the basis of certain genuine grievances.

"We, however, condemn every type of kidnapping particularly of inno cent people," he said.

Raja'i Khorasan also blamed the Western countries and said, "The Wes t should have conceived of the consequences of the kidnapping of the Lebanese shaykh and should have exe ted pressure on Israel for the release of the 'alim." He si gled out the United States and said that Israel, the close t ally of that country and Washington was in the best p osition to put pressure on that country.

Raja'i-Khorasani was permanent representative of Iran to the United Na tions before being elected for the Majlis from the Tehran constituency.

He said that the condemnation of U.S. President George Bush is all right but what should have been done was to have put pressur e on Israel and avoided this tragedy.

Commentary on Archbishop of Canterbury's Message
LD0908213189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Unattributed political commentary entitled "The Message of the Archbishop of Canterbury to Iran's President-Elect"]

[Text] For the last 10 days, since the abduction of Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd by the aggressor Zionist regime's forces, the issue of foreign hostages in Lebanon has assumed still wider and more [word indistinct] dimensions.

Although Israel's terrorist move has been condemned by various political circles at regional and global levels and many countries have asked Tel Aviv to release Shaykh 'Ubayd and his companions, the Zionist regime's disregard of this demand has put the hostages' fate in a [word indistinct] of doubt and uncertainty.

Meanwhile, Hashemi-Rafsanjani's official request to the parties involved in the hostage issue to make efforts to find a rational and logical solution has brought a certain optimism. And in its wake some endeavors have taken place to resolve the hostage problem.

The parties involved in this issue have, in reaction to Hashemi- Rafsanjani's proposal, expressed their inclinations in this regard through (?adjusting) their postures and views.

In connection with these efforts the message of the archbishop of Canterbury to Iran's President-elect Hashemi-Rafsanjani should be mentioned. Robert Cantuar [as heard] at the outset greeted Hashemi-Rafsanjani on his being elected as the new president of Iran and wished him success in this position. The archbishop of Canterbury later referred to the abduction of Shaykh 'Ubayd and noted: I was shocked upon hearing this news and immediately issued a statement in which I unreservedly condemned this kidnapping. I went on to say that kidnapping was always an abominable crime; but especially so when done by a state. I called upon Israel to release the men immediately.

The archbishop of Canterbury then referred to the issue of the Iranian hostages in Lebanon and pointed out: I am ever conscious of the fact that kidnappings, which have gone on for many years, began with the kidnapping by the Lebanese Christian forces of Hoseyn Musavi, two other Iranians, and their driver. I have frequently pointed out that this kidnapping was just as abominable as any other.

In conclusion, the message referred to the effort in that [word indistinct] will seek the release of all the hostages. The dispatch of this message by the archbishop of Canterbury is indicative of a series of efforts which are being made to resolve the hostage crisis.

However, the issue which occupies great importance is that any settlement of the hostages problem hinges on finding a logical, rational and comprehensive solution (?to the) sincerity of the involved parties. In other words, any success in resolving the crisis would depend on the degree of good faith, generally honest efforts and rational approach shown by the relevant parties. aug 2301z jlb

Suicide Attack on Israeli Convoy in Lebanon Noted
LD0908191189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The Revolutionary Movement of Lebanon's Hezbollah said in a statement that the self-sacrifice by a Lebanese Muslim today against a military convoy of the Zionist regime in south Lebanon was performed by one of the comrades [yaran] of Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd, the abducted Friday prayer leader of the Jibshit townlet.

According to IRNA, the Revolutionary Movement of Lebanon's Hezbollah added that these operations took place at 0954 [0654 GMT] local time at the northern part of the town of Ghalayyah near the border of occupied Palestine.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Resistance of Lebanon has accepted the responsibility for the attack on the military convoy of the Zionist regime forces in the occupied part of Marj 'Uyun, in south Lebanon.

According to a statement, issued by Islamic Resistance of Lebanon today, a revolutionary Lebanese Muslim rammed an explosive-packed car into the military convoy of the occupying regime at the entrance to the town of Ghalayyah in the occupied part of Marj 'Uyun, which is under the influence of the military forces of the Zionist regime [as heard]. As well as destroying a number of the vehicles of the Zionist regime, he succeeded in seriously wounding a number of them.

According to an available report, during these operations, these forces of the Zionist regime used military helicopters to fly over the region; they brought more forces to the region of Marj 'Uyun to help the injured.

Meanwhile, an AFP report states that a spokesperson for the Zionist regime's army confirmed the operations of Muslim revolutionary Lebanese in south Lebanon and stressed that five Israeli military personnel and one member of paramilitary personnel of south Lebanon were wounded in this action.

Commentary on Action of Jordanian Soldier
LD0908133989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1055 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Station commentary: "Revolutionary Action of a Jordanian Soldier"]

[Text] Yesterday, a Jordanian soldier, after crossing the border into occupied Palestine and entering a border township settled by the Zionists, tried to take hostage an Israeli and an American tourist. News sources have said that the soldier had been shouting that his objective was to avenge his brother's blood. An Israeli military spokesman has denied the possibility that the Jordanian soldier's objective was to take hostage a Zionist and an American in order to exchange them with Shaykh 'Ubayd.

Shaykh 'Ubayd, the cleric from the Jibshit region of Lebanon, was abducted by an Israeli commando group at his residence in south Lebanon at midnight last week and was taken to occupied Palestine. Israel's war minister [title as heard], Yitzhaq Rabin, announced that with the death of the Jordanian soldier, the operation is over. He also claimed that the soldier was insane. The Jordanian Government, too, in its usual response to such deeds, has declared that they know nothing about the fate of that country's soldier, Farid 'Ali Mustafa, and has not given any further details about him.

This is the second time in 2 and ½ months that Jordanian soldiers have crossed Jordan's borders to carry out operations inside occupied Palestine. In the first week of Khordad this year [last week of May 1989], a Jordanian soldier named 'Isa Mahmud Ahmad crossed Jordan's borders in his military uniform to attack an Israeli patrol unit inside occupied Palestine, killing and wounding a number of the Zionists. Although at the time the governments of Jordan and Israel claimed that the Jordanian soldier was mad, many people rejected this claim and believed that his obective was to confront the decisions of the Arab summit in Casablanca. During this summit, the Arab leaders demonstrated their full support for the PLO's reactionary moves by endorsing the Zionist regime. For the same reason, the Jordanian government, Israel, and even the Western progagandists labelled as insane those who resorted to actions in protest against these decisions. This was the same label that the Egyptian regime used against Sulayman Khatir.

The motive and action of these revolutionary soldiers in the attack on Israelis, which has cost them their lives every time, has been very meaningful and sacred. The Governments of Egypt and Jordan, which in the political arena present themselves as the main sympathetic supporters of the Palestine people, have banned and expression of solidarity with the people of Palestine inside Egypt and Jordan; and have secured their long borders with occupied Palestine in favor of Israel. While both regimes face serious internal opposition and have to witness scenes of violent street clashes from time to time, they have failed to prevent revolutionary moves of the soldiers along these two countries' long borders with occupied Palestine. The degree of understanding and awareness of these soldiers and the protesting aspect of their work should be sought in the objectives which create a motive in them to resort to dangerous measures. The fact that a Jordanian soldier shouts that he is seeking to avenge the blood of his brother is a symbol of the solidarity the Jordanian soldiers feel with the Muslim people of occupied Palestine, whose 20-month uprising

has resulted in hundreds of martyrs, thousands of detainees, and countless numbers of injured and disabled people. On the other hand, the Jordanian soldier's attempt to take hostage an Israeli and an American, whom the Israeli military spokesman claims he intended to exchange for Shaykh 'Ubayd, demonstrates that a large part of the Arab nations seeks to confront Israel's crimes, and the Muslim people of Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan, and Egypt, in search of a common objective, wish the destruction of the cancerous tumor of Israel in the region.

'Letter of Understanding' Signed With Pakistan

LD0908194489 Tehran IRNA in English 1822 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 9, IRNA—Iran and Pakistan signed a letter of understanding for agricultural cooperation here Wednesday.

The letter was inked by Agriculture Minister 'Isa Kalantari and Pakistani Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture and Cooperatives Rao Sikandar Iqbal.

Exchange of experiences in various agricultural fields were agreed upon during the four-day visit of the Pakistani minister, Kalantari said.

Iqbal also told reporters that the two countries can cooperate in the fields of soil preservation, livestock and dairy products as well as exchange of experts and students in this regard. He left here for Islamabad Wednesday afternoon.

Iravani, Japanese Envoy on Petrochemical Project

NC0908054689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The new Japanese ambassador in Tehran has met with Mr Iravani, our minister of economic affairs and finance, to discuss the two countries' commercial, economic, and industrial relations and issues pertaining to the completion of the Bandar-e Imam Khomeyni petrochemical project.

The Central News Unit reports that our minister of economic affairs and finance referred to the 2d decade of the revolution as the reconstruction phase and said: There are many possibilities for the expansion of cooperation between the two countries and the final solution of the Bandar-e Imam Khomeyni petrochemical project can pave the way for the expansion of existing cooperation and the creation of new spheres for cooperation.

Pointing to the imbalance in trade between Iran and Japan, Mr Iravani called for the establishment of balanced trade.

The Japanese ambassador emphasized the interest of the Japanese Government and institutions in expanding bilateral relations, and expressed hopes that the Bandar-e Imam Khomeyni petrochemical project will be completed.

Commentary Assesses Situation in Somalia

NC0808082089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Unattributed commentary by the Central News Unit research group]

[Excerpts] General Siad Barre's 20-year old regime in Somalia, which is facing increasing problems in the political, economic, and social fields, has been facing a new crisis following the unrest last month in the Somali capital. This unrest, which took the form of demonstrations by Mogadishu Muslims protesting the arrest of several clerical leaders of that country by government officials on Friday 14 August—'Id al-Adha—met with the strong reaction of the Somali regime's security forces. During the suppression of the Muslim demonstrations, hundreds were killed and wounded and a large number of Muslims were arrested by the security forces. Government forces put the number of victims in these clashes at 23 dead and about 60 wounded. However, opposition sources put the number at at least 400 dead and hundreds wounded.

Despite the passage of several weeks, the details on this incident and on the suppressive operations by the Somali Government forces in their confrontation with the Somali Muslims have not been revealed. Meanwhile, reports received indicate that this unrest continues.

Since the onset of his rule in 1969, Gen Siad Barre has tried to rely on foreign forces and to crush the Somali Muslims who form almost the entire 6-million-strong population of this country in the Horn of Africa. While the method used by the Somali regime to confront the Somali Muslims' protest speaks of that regime's illegality among the Muslims, it can also be a manifestation of a threat perceived by the Somali regime from the Somali Muslims' movement—a movement which in the opinion of political observers has now emerged in the form of a growing wave of Islamic awakening in countries of North Africa and the Horn of Africa and which is considered as a threatening element against the rule of dependent regimes such as that of Somalia.

In addition to the problem of Islamic awakening, the Siad Barre regime is also facing other problems in the economic, political, and social fields, each one of which is considered an element threatening the stability and sovereignty of Somalia and which have naturally given rise to the concern of the Somali officials. [passage omitted]

All the political, economic, and social disorder in Somalia which has destabilized the situation in that country not only seriously threatens the continuation of the Siad

Barre regime but has also roused the concern of Somalia's Western allies, especially that of the United States. Feeling the threat stemming from the elements already referred to, Washington officials have been pressuring the Somali regime to carry out political and economic reforms for 2 years now. It is clear that the objective behind the U.S. officials' stand is to ensure their strategic interests in the Horn of Africa.

Since the beginning of the eighties, the Somali regime has placed the strategic port of Berbera in northern Somalia and the Aden Gulf shore at the disposal of the U.S. military forces, on the basis of an agreement. Since then it has been continuing its cooperation with the U.S. Administration in exchange for financial and arms assistance.

Clearly, if the situation in Somalia exacerbates further and if the Siad Barre regime is unable to confront that country's increasing problems and especially the issue of Islamic awakening, the United States and its other allies may resort to a new solution in order to ensure their position and their interests in that country.

Shiite Mujahidin Proposal to 7-Party Alliance
LD0708152089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1055 GMT 7 Aug 89

[Station commentary: "The Afghan Mujahidin and the Interim Government of the Seven-Party Alliance"]

[Text] More than 6 months have passed since the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. The departure of the troops was the most important aim of the Afghan people and the mujahidin in order for them to attain liberty and independence or, in another words, to control their own political destiny. Simultaneously with this fundamental development on the Afghan agenda which was realized as a result of the Afghan mujahidin's 9-year struggle and the unity among them in planning for the political future of this Islamic land, an interim government began to be formed. However, from the outset this government did not manage to gain the necessary support as it did not include all the Afghan groups who had played an influential role in the 10-year struggle against the Marxist regime ruling in Kabul and the foreigners. It is for this very reason that this government's nucleus still comprises the Peshawar-based seven-party mujahidin alliance in Pakistan.

Thus, the efforts made by the mujahidin of Afghanistan's Islamic coalition council [shura-e e'telaf eslami], and a number of the [word indistinct] members in the interim government, have hitherto failed to transform this government into a government representative of all Afghans.

In addition to these efforts, one can refer to the negotiations convened between the representatives of the mujahidin alliance and coalition in Tehran and Peshawar which were fruitless because of the lack of cooperation between some members of the seven-party alliance, and their lack of respect for the articles stipulated in the Tehran agreement.

These differences have remained, while the interim government of the seven-party alliance of mujahidin has in practice been unable to create cohesion among the various mujahidin groups. Political observers attribute the failure to realize this objective which could certainly, in view of the conditions created, disrupt the future of a strong Afghanistan established by the Afghan people and mujahidin, to the seditious policies masterminded by the United States; and the countries in the region which follow the policies of Washington, specifically Afghanistan [as heard].

The policies of those who interfere in the affairs of Afghanistan, which has recently escalated in the wake of the Soviet troop withdrawal from that country, have prompted the occurrence of suspicious events among the various Afghan mujahidin, such as the recent ruthless massacre of 38 high-ranking commanders of the Afghan holy war. Support for the seditious policies of the global arrogance seen in these events is shown in the escalation of greater antagonism among the parties of the Afghan seven-party alliance, to such an extent that a number of these parties under the pretext of the interim government's lack of comprehensive and all-around support, are trying to inflict blows on each other.

The disintegration of the interim government of the mujahidin seven-party alliance has in fact been prompted by those who were in reality serious supporters of that government, and who hitherto had prevented the appearance of the other mujahidin and independent forces in that government.

Under these conditions, in which suspicious events masterminded by the foreign forces are taking place, in order to prevent unity among the Afghan mujahidin and hence committing fratricide within the mujahidin groups, the Afghan eight-party Islamic coalition announced that it will participate in the interim government of that country if the signed agreement between the Afghan mujahidin alliance and coalition is accepted. This is at a time when, in the opinion of the Afghan mujahidin eight-party alliance based in Iran, the longer the interim government remains in power, the more it loses the ability to gain comprehensive support. This is because this government, as a result of the nonparticipation of all the Islamic and Afghan mujahidin forces, has not only failed to resolve the existing obstacles, but has in fact exacerbated them.

Political observers regard the recent initiative taken by the mujahidin eight-party coalition council to strengthen the interim government as a positive step, provided that

the existing realities are accepted by some members of the seven-party alliance. The same observers believe that the weakening and disintegration of the interim government is the objective of some of the parties of the seven-party alliance, who claim to have left that government. This will, no doubt, create a situation in which those who interfere [in Afghan affairs] led by the United States and the agents of [Saudi] Arabia, would be able to establish their interests through the imposition of their policies. Therefore, the entire Afghan nation needs to move quickly.

Afghanistan's Islamic Movement's Problems Viewed
NC2907123089 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 24 Jul 89 pp 1, 12

[Editorial entitled: "Afghanistan's Islamic Movement Is Feeling the Danger of Infiltrators!"]

[Text] Afghanistan's Islamic movement is going through difficult and problematic days. The problems of the movement and recent incidents all show that the Afghanistan problem is much more complicated than was initially thought. The seriousness of the "threat of the infiltrators" to the movement was underestimated, and now the movement is receiving one blow after another because of its naivete.

From the very outset, when some Afghan groups started to seek assistance from foreigners, it could be foreseen that the threat of the enemy of the nation's infiltrating the Afghanistan movement would be from this very point and that gradually it would result in some of the infiltrators receiving their orders from abroad. It could be foreseen that this, in turn, would create a rift and that if these infiltrators did not receive a decisive and effective blow, they would continue to remain within the movement and even move to distract the movement and to make it dependent.

An immature and naive position on the Afghanistan problem and a shallow solution to the movement's problems, as well as a generalization of everything, can only be to the detriment of the Islamic movement of Afghanistan.

The bitter experiences of the past few months prove that the Islamic movement of Afghanistan has been harmed or may be harmed, in this way. They prove that the main threat is from the "infiltrators" who act like "a plague," discouraging the people and harming the true mujahidin and the movement.

The incidents of the recent months and the developments around Jalalabad and Kabul clearly showed that the threat of the infiltrators should not be underestimated and that if the Afghan mujahidin cannot confront this threat, they should then choose one of two alternatives: Either witness the destruction of the movement by the infiltrators, or with great bitterness witness the massacre of the most able and selfless forces of their bloody movement by the hands of those who have donned the mask of revolution but who are acting as infiltrators.

The bitter incident of the massacre of 38 of the high-ranking commanders of the Afghan mujahidin by the "infiltrators" was danger that caused alarm bells to ring, calling on all those sympathizers of the movement to think about the present and the future of the movement. Reports received indicate that 38 high-ranking mujahidin commanders had met to discuss ways to break the war stalemate on the fronts against the Marxist regime of Kabul and that they were attacked by hundreds of armed infiltrators when they were on their way back to their headquarters after this meeting.

The reports indicate that at first 4 of the well-known and active commanders of the Afghan mujahidin were martyred by the infiltrators and that the other 34 were taken captive.

There is a very delicate point here and that is that even though the said commanders were highly capable of defending themselves and were very well trained in operations, they nevertheless avoided any kind of military confrontation in order to prevent further bloodshed and because they only considered the Marxist regime of Kabul to be their main enemy. Thus, they surrendered to their attackers so that the issue could be solved peacefully. But facts show that the "the mission of the infiltrators was to massacre" and that they killed the 34 high-ranking commanders of the mujahidin after capturing them and savagely torturing them.

A regrettable point is that this horrific massacre led to the martyrdom of those people whose names were synonymous with noteworthy victories scored by the bloody movement of the oppressed Afghan nation. They were people whose mere names made the enemies of the Afghan nation tremble. Therefore, it should be said that the Afghan nation has paid a very high price in recognizing the true face of the infiltrators.

This is not a small incident that can be easily ignored. Had these able commanders of the Afghanistan movement been martyred in their war against infidel forces and the Marxist puppet regime of Kabul, then this would have been the greatest glory in the history of Afghanistan's resistance movement. But when such horrific crimes are perpetrated by those who advocate defense for the Islamic movement of Afghanistan, then the issue adopts a very bitter and regrettable nature.

adopts a very bitter and regrettable nature.

The sympathizers with the Afghanistan movement can smell a plot. This incident was not a simple incident. It was a premeditated crime aimed at creating rift and

discord among the tight ranks of the Afghanistan movement. This was a disgusting crime aimed at discouraging the Afghan nation and the selfless mujahidin of the movement and the frontline strugglers against the Marxist regime of Kabul.

It is impossible to carry out a more precise study of this calamity without seeing the footprints of the xenophiles. The Afghan nation and especially the revolutionaries should study this incident seriously and, by carefully investigating and analyzing it, prevent the repetition of such disgusting acts among the ranks of the mujahidin.

As stated by the leaders of the mujahidin, naturally no one should resort to a hasty reaction stemming from sentimentalism or create an atmosphere for a vendetta. This is because the initial goal of the enemies of the Afghan nation will be ensured by the mujahidin forces themselves. Naturally, if this happens, then no one will regard the infiltrators as the culprits, and basically speaking, the infiltrators themselves will try to muddy the waters so that they can thus erase any proof of their guilt and make it impossible to investigate this crime.

The Islamic movement of Afghanistan is at a sensitive and determing juncture. All this "malice of the infiltrators" should be carefully taken into consideration and be confronted in a self-possessed, logical, serious, and effective way. Here the mission of those who shoulder a responsibility in the interim government of the mujahidin becomes more clear.

This was a serious and horrific blow on the Afghan resistance, and naturally a suitable reaction of the dimension of the crime should be expected. This incident can pave the way for many unwanted incidents that the enemies have prepared in order to take revenge on the Afghan nation.

Another important point is that this is a conflict between two Sunni groups and is directly aimed at the complete annihilation of the unity and solidarity among the forces in the "seven-party Afghan mujahidin alliance." It is not yet clear how the Afghan mujahidin will react to this painful incident. But one point is clear, and that is that underestimating such disgusting incidents will lead to their repetition and that this, in turn, will render fruitless the 10 years of struggle by the Afghan nation and will distract the movement. May this never happen.

ETTELA'AT Commentary on Year-Old Cease-Fire

NC0308213089 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 25 Jul 89 pp 20, 2

['A. Marvi Commentary: "Assessing the Situations of Iran and Iraq, 1 Year After the Acceptence of Resolution 598"]

[Text] One year after the acceptance by Iran of the UN Security Council Resolution, even though the guns continue to be silent, there is nevertheless no news on "peace" between Iran and Iraq. It also seems that the continuation of the existing stalemate in the current talks between Tehran and Baghdad is the main reason behind the "absence of finalization" in the basic affairs of the Persian Gulf. Even though a fragile cease-fire existed during the past 11 months on the Iranian-Iraqi confrontation line, the problems and threats emanating from the continuation of regional conflicts, the increasing pileup of arms in the region, and the continuing presence of foreign fleets in the Persian Gulf nevertheless continue to exist. This is at a time when the major and basic policy of Iran and Iraq during the past year—in the first phase—has been to try to maintain a general equilibrium—a deterring equilibrium—on the various scenes of confrontation.

During the past year, both Iran and Iraq have scored achievements and have faced limitations in implementing this general policy. It is important to see which side—Iran or Iraq—was successful in putting its general situation in order and which side has acted more decisively.

Since the establishment of the Iran-Iraq cease-fire in August last year, both Iran and Iraq faced two basic priorities:
—military and economic reconstruction, and
—political reconstruction (both at home and abroad).

Clearly, the efforts by Tehran and Baghdad to reach these objectives had direct effects on the peace talks and have either strengthened or weakened their negotiating positions in the talks concerning implementing Resolution 598.

The Iran-Iraq cease-fire was established when the economies of both countries had been severely harmed and when on the foreign relations scene, Iraq's relations with the Soviet Union on the one hand, and Iran's relations with the United States on the other were in a "critical" state.

Moscow had kept the Security Council from inflicting more pressure on Iran—on the basis of Article 10 of Resolution 598—and this had dissatisfied Baghdad. This was when Tehran-Washington relations were at their most critical stage because of America's overt intervention in the Persian Gulf war to the benefit of Iraq and its regional allies. It seems that this situation continued during the past year.

Tehran and Moscow came closer together, especially after the visit paid by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani to that country. Thus, Iraq embarked on a more blatant criticism of Soviet policy on rapprochement with Iran. Iran's relations with West European countries after the Rushdie affair have been moving toward normalization during the past couple of months. The hostility between Iran and the United States and some of Washington's Arab allies in the region, especially Saudi Arabia, continues. In other words, while Iran's political relations with Arab countries during the past year did not improve in the least bit, relations between Tehran and some of major

countries in the East bloc (where in most cases vast political and economic reconstruction is in the process), as well as with North Korea and China have improved, and in some cases the grounds for extensive military cooperation have also been paved.

This is at a time when despite the fresh criticisms that it is aiming at the Soviet Union and Moscow's allies, Iraq has not made any marked progress in its relations with West European countries—with the exception of France—as well as with the United States of America. And this is what has made Iraq, which wanted to play the number one role in the Arab world, try to take part in regional blocs—an example of which is its support for the formation of an Arab Cooperation Council—in a bid to strengthen its position. In other words, after the acceptance of the cease-fire, Iran has been more successful in activating its foreign policy—which has sometimes been coupled with aggressiveness, and it has been able to create a new structure more skillfully in its relations with one of Iraq's best friends—that is, the Soviet Union.

In a general assessment, during the past 12 months Iran's diplomacy in East Europe, eastern and southern Asia, and some African countries has been expanding. With the exception of the crisis in Iran's relations with West Europe because of the Rushdie affair, Iran's foreign policy has been within the expected logical framework.

This is at a time when Iraq continues to be in conflict with Syria in the region, when it supports Michel 'Awn's forces against the national and Islamic forces of Lebanon, when it has differences with its Arab neighbors on long-term policies on oil prices, and when—with the exception of one "nonintervention" pact with Saudi Arabia—it has not scored any marked success in improving its relations with the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council]. Meanwhile, despite the expansion of its economic relation with Pakistan, which has an agreement on the expansion of military cooperations with Iran, and despite the preservation of its relations with Turkey whose relations with Iran recently faced a propaganda cold war, Iraq has not made any marked progress in its regional relations either.

As for political reconstruction policies in both countries, with the reappraisal of its Constitution Iran has paved the way for centralizing the executive branch and unifying the country's political management. In other words, during the past few months, Iran has seen a decisive political development, the effects of which will be destiny-making, especially in the military and economic fields. The effects of recent Iranian political developments will be a turning point which will determine the fate of the Iran-Iraq confrontation. Iraq and its Arab allies fear the birth of a "strong centralization" in Iran's political life while they are well aware of the fact that a consensus of opinion among the Iranian leaders will tip the existing balance in the region to Iran's side. This is considered to be the most important development after the cease-fire, and political determination stemming from necessity has made Iran take a major and historic step in this field. This is at a time when a curtain of silence has been drawn in front of the "secret crisis" within the Iraqi leadership. The triangle of Ba'th leadership—Saddam, Tariq 'Aziz, and Taha Yasin Ramadan—continues to remain unchanged. The regime has—by propounding the imaginary threat of Iran and the hostility of the Kurdish minority to its elite officers—refrained from all the necessary political efforts that are needed for economic reconstruction on the pretext of safeguarding political security, and this has kept the power circle in Baghdad—something which has always been coupled with bloody differences—closed.

In the economic field, which was most harmed in both countries by the war, despite the fact that oil prices have enjoyed relative stability during the past year, the process of reconstruction has nevertheless been progressing cautiously and slowly. Iran has turned its attention to the fields of energy, steel, and the oil and gas industries, and it is trying to implement a long-term economic program to increase production by avoiding the nationalization of affairs. A similar process can be seen in Iraq, which of course relies on international financial and credit facilities. The final outcome in this field will depend on the wish of the two countries' leaders to tap national resources, the attention given to the effects of international participation, and, most important of all, the true determination of the political leadership.

In other words, during the year since the cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq war, Baghdad has been unable to change its policy, which is the strengthening of its military structure at any price while Iran has—in addition to its planned efforts for strengthening the country's defense structure—been able to achieve a decisive political development by amending its Constitution and by agreeing on the election of a president with much authority. The basic question now is: To whose benefit will the delay in the peace talks and, in turn, the delay in military and political reconstruction by the two traditional rivals in the region—Iran and Iraq—be? The Iraqi leadership considers itself the "victor" in a war that does not actually have a vanquished. This imaginary military conquest calls for producing the outcome of the victory for the political activists and the Iraqi nation to see; and this is at a time when there are still 50,000 Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran and when Iraq is unable to use the Arvand River.

In short, the Iraqi regime has been unable to produce any achievements during the past year, and it has wasted time by continuing to occupy more than 2,000 km of Iranian territory. But the protraction of the talks will be to Iran's benefit only if the country's political manage- in order, in the same order of priority, to accept Resolution 598 and peace with Iraq was the best decision in the most difficult situation; now, the emphasis on Iran's determination to establish peace in the

region is
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Iraq from
han those in August last year. Negotiating with
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m a position of power will pave the difficult way
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peace. In order to be "strong" in the peace talks,
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harmony and the intensification of major activ-
but funda
he field of reconstruction are not only necessary,
damental and determining factors.

Khamene
ne'i Bids Farewell to Office Staff
LD09081
1030 GM
111189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
MT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Th
morning r
The staff and workers at president's office this
and said g
met with His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i
during the
goodbye to him as the president of our country
of His Em
he past 8 years. Mr Mirsalim, the special adviser
dency, exp
minence Ayatollah Khamene'i during his presi-
esteemed
expressed his condolences for the passing of the
sizing the
d mother of the leader of our country. Empha-
president's
he honesty and sincerity of the staff of the
in the coun
t's office, he said that their efforts and services
ourse of their duties have been praiseworthy.

Then the l
expressing
e leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while
the Preside
ng his satisfaction with the efforts of the staff of
revolution
ident's Office, said: All that we have is due to the
and capabi
on and we should place our knowledge, expertise,
prepare ou
abilities in the service of the revolution and should
in the cou
ourselves for greater service. I thank all those who
expectation
course of the past 8 years, without any special
istrative we
ions, have been engaged in intellectual and admin-
work and service in the President's Office.

The leader
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der of the Islamic Republic of Iran described
the revolu
and sincerity as the first conditions for serving
he thanke
olution and the country. At the end of his speech,
and wishe
nked all the employees of the President's Office
revolution
shed them greater success in the service of the
lah Khame
ion and Islam. Afterwards, His Eminence Ayatol-
staff of the
amene'i gave a copy of the holy Koran to all of the
the President's Office.

Khamene
ene'i, Prime Minister Musavi Meet 9 Aug
LD090812
1030 GMT
8122289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
MT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Mr
accompani
Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi, head of the cabinet,
ties, was re
panied by members of the cabinet and his depu-
leader of t
as received this morning by Ayatollah Khamene'i,
excellency,
of the Islamic revolution for a meeting with his
ncy.

In this me
cabinet, firs
meeting, Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi, head of the
of all the r
first expressed condolences to the leader on behalf
esteemed m
he ministers on the occasion of the death of the
Emphasizi
ed mother of his eminence, Ayatollah Khamene'i.
ily governi
sizing the point that steadfastness based on the
Ayatollah K
s of the Islamic revolution and moving along the
rnment under the leadership of His Eminence
h Khamene'i, he said all those who, during the
past years, have served in the government had as their intention and goodwill to render service to Islam and to those values for the sake of which our proud nation offered many martyrs and made a great deal of effort.

Mr Musavi explained that we owe our lives, glory, honor, and pride to the leadership of our great imam. He continued by saying that during 8 years of service, the government encountered many problems and difficulties but none of these can be compared with the calamity of the demise of his eminence the imam, may his noble soul be sanctified. Mr Musavi wished success for the future Government of the Islamic Republic under the presidency of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani to solve the problems of the country and to advance the Islamic revolution. He also expressd the hope that the leadership of the revolution and the heroic and great people of Iran are satisfied with the 8-year service the government has rendered.

According to this same report, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of our country, in explaining the point that a change in one's job will not alter the principle of cooperation, said that the policy of service is a continuous policy and wherever we are it is not conceivable for us to forsake the bright minds and capable groups of the Islamic Republic.

His eminence explained that these past 8 years have been very eventful and among the great junctures of the Iranian nation. He said God Almighty had destined that all of us during this period should be responsible for one of the most important and fundamental tasks of the country. The leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, referring to the point that the future can be understood through speculation and analysis, emphasized that our speculation in relation to the future is mingled with our resolve and we will not permit the future to move in a direction contrary to the will of Islam and Muslims. Our aim is clear. We have decided to move toward that aim. We should fulfill this resolve in a way that will please God.

The leader of our country emphasized the deci[illegible]e and strong continuation of the line of the im[illegible]d the revolution toward the objectives and aspiratio[illegible] dear Islam and the great nation of Iran. He said that w[illegible] have no doubt that as far as the destiny of the country and the revolution is concerned, the importance of the times ahead of us will not be any less than in the past.

In conclusion, the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in thanking Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi and members of the cabinet, expressed the hope that the existing sincere relations, always based on faith and kindness, will continue to [illegible]. At the end of his meeting His Eminence presented a volume of the holy Koran to the head and members of cabinet as a sign of appreciation for the minister's efforts.

Khomeyni, Meshkini, Others Mark Hoseyn Martyrdom

LD0908134889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Tens of thousands of the Hoseynite mourners took part in mourning ceremonies marking the martyrdom of the lord of the martyrs, the holy Imam Hoseyn—may God's peace be upon him—beside the pure grave of his eminence, the Imam Khomeyni—may God's peace be upon him. The ceremonies were attended by Ayatollah Pasandideh, Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, and Ayatollah Meshkini, head of the Assembly of Experts.

According to the Central News Unit reporter, in these splendid ceremonies which were also attended by a group of theologians, clergymen, state and military officials, esteemed families of the martyrs, POW's and those missing-in-action, and a number of the disabled and injured, mourning and grieving groups eulogized and lamented the memory of the tragedy of the lord of the martyrs and his followers. According to this report, in this gathering, Ayatollah Mohammadi Gilani, one of the theologians on the Council of Guardians spoke about the characteristics of the holy Hoseyn—may God's peace be upon him—and the geunine followers of the lord of martyrs throughout history.

Industries Minister Cited on Investment Plan

LD0808175389 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 8 Aug 89

[Text] Tabriz, East Azarbayjan Prov., Aug. 8, IRNA—Some dlrs. 11 billion will be invested for expansion of new industries during the first five-year plan (started this year), industries minister announced here today.

Gholamreza Shafe'i told reporters that priority will be given to basic and intermediary industries while consumer products industries will have a second priority in development plans. The plans will boost growth of the industry sector by 8 per cent or more.

Shafe'i currently on a tour of this northwestern province, said at the end of a one-day industrial policy seminar here that investment will be employed as a tool for harnessing inflation. He said a total of rials 1,470 billion (dlrs. 20 bn.) in private sector's cash flow would be invested on 9,220 projected industrial units.

Central Bank Governor Holds News Conference

LD0908164789 Tehran IRNA in English 1606 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 9, IRNA—Iran's first Five-Year Plan and allocation of hard currency to various economic sectors in the year 1368 (21 March 1989-20 March 1990) were outlined by governor of the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran Majid Qasemi Wednesday [9 August]

Speaking at a news conference, Qasemi said over 4.8 billion have been allocated to consumer staples this year, adding that the figure showed an increase of 55 per cent compared to the previous year. For defence too, he added, sufficient foreign currency will be allocated.

Qasemi said a sum of $488 million has been allocated for health and medical sectors during the current year expressing hope the amount would eliminate the existing difficulties.

Some 2.5 per cent of the country's total foreign currency income has been allocated to cultural section, he said, estimating the figure to be $260 million in 1368.

The foreign currency allocated to agricultural sector, he announced, is about $1.2 billion during the current Iranian year (1368).

The governor mentioned that the production in the industry section has been constantly reducing since 1361 (1982-1983) after the victory of the Islamic revolution. According to the statistics released by big industrial plants, he said, total production indicator has been 85.4 per cent during the first nine months of the previous Iranian year 1367 (ended March 20), a decrease of 14.6 compared to the year 1361. Over $1 billion has been allocated to housing and construction this year, Qasemi said, adding the amount will be spent on reconstruction of destroyed or damaged areas in the imposed war and on provision of construction materials for development, production and public sector. $220 million has been so far spent on reconstruction of war-stricken areas, he added.

Foreign currency quota for transportation is about $500 million, the Central Bank official noted.

On a question on the level of usance credits received by Iran, Qasemi said the Islamic Republic of Iran has used this method over the past years, adding Iran has received some $6 billion during the period and repayed it in due time.

Pakistan

Yaqub Khan Meets With Mojaddedi, Offers Support

BK0908163089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1505 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 9 (AFP)—Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's foreign policy adviser Iqbal Akhund Wednesday met with the president of the Afghan rebels' interim government, Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, resistance sources said.

The sources said the meeting was at Mr. Mojaddedi's office in Peshawar, bordering Afghanistan, and lasted one hour.

Mr. Yaqub Khan "reaffirmed Pakistan's support" to the Afghan interim government (AIG) and backed its "just cause," the sources added.

Analysts said the meeting was important because it was the first time the country's two top diplomats have met jointly with the resistance chief.

Pakistan is the main supporter of the Afghan resistance, which is fighting against the Soviet-backed Kabul regime and for an Islamic government in their country.

Sources here said the current military situation and prospects of resolving the Afghan conflict also figured in the talks.

The meeting came ahead of the Pakistani foreign minister's visit to Teheran next week for talks with his Iranian counterpart, 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Iran and Pakistan, which have traditionally coordinated their Afghan policies, have started a search for a political solution to the 11-year conflict which does not abandon the resistance.

The meeting follows a reported rift in the ranks of the seven-party resistance alliance after a July 9 internecine clash in northern Takhar Province between the forces of the AIG's foreign minister, Golbuddin Hekmatyar, and those of its reconstruction minister, Burhanuddin Rabbani.

Informed resistance sources said Mr. Mojaddedi recently wrote a letter to his prime minister, Rasul Sayyaf, conveying four other leaders' demand for an action against Mr. Hekmatyar following the killing of some of Mr. Rabbani's guerrillas commanders in an alleged ambush.

Mr. Sayyaf has not yet responded, they said. Mr. Mojaddedi had earlier proposed an Islamic commission to probe the incident.

Foreign Minister To Visit Tehran 16 Aug

BK0908143189 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan will go to Tehran on 16 August for detailed discussions with Iranian leaders on the Afghanistan issue and other regional matters. According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati had earlier emphasized the need for this kind of high-level bilateral contact for the mutual benefit of both countries.

Agriculture, Forestry Ties With Iran To Increase

BK1008031889 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] Pakistan and Iran have agreed to increase their cooperation in agriculture and forestry, and to benefit from each other's experiences in these fields. This was stated in a joint communique signed in Tehran by the federal minister for food and agriculture, Rao Sikandar Iqbal, after a 4-day visit to Iran.

Both countries will cooperate in the fields of poultry and livestock and will provide students with post-graduate training facilities in each other's agricultural research centers. Arrangements will also be made for visits by farmers who use modern farming methods to each other's country.

The federal minister, who led a 3-member delegation to Iran, told newsmen after returning to Karachi last evening that a committee of experts has been set up to review implementation of the decisions. The committee will meet in Islamabad and Tehran from time to time.

Political Rivalries Said To Halt Ship Unloading

BK0908121689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1027 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Karachi, Aug 9 (AFP)—The M.V. Jonathan, a U.S. vessel waiting at anchorage here for almost two months to unload 28,000 tonnes of steel scrap, has run out of drinking water and rations, shipping sources said Wednesday.

The ship's captain has asked port authorities to replenish water and food supplies pending the Jonathan's berthing which has been held up by a political controversy over the non-availability of railway wagons, sources said.

The M.V. Jonathan docked at Karachi on June 14 carrying 28,000 tonnes of scrap for a foundry owned by the Ittefaq Group, which belongs to the family of opposition leader and Punjab Province Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif. But the cargo vessel was later moved to anchorage on the grounds that railway wagons were not available to carry the scrap to Lahore in Punjab.

Officials also said priority would be given to transporting wheat imports and other essential goods.

Negotiations between the state-run railways and Ittefaq for unloading the steel were continuing, sources said.

Shahbaz Sharif, a brother of the Islamic Democratic Alliance leader Nawaz Sharif, has accused the government of waging a political vendetta against the Ittefaq Group and cited the M.V. Jonathan case as example.

"After the failure of an attempted no confidence motion against Mr. Nawaz Sharif in the Punjab Assembly, the Federal Government shifted its battlefront from the

provincial assembly to the shop floors and corporate offices of Ittefaq foundries and its associated undertakings," he said at a news conference in Islamabad last Thursday.

He said the national railway system had refused to provide wagons for moving the scrap from Karachi to Lahore and added that the "whole exercise aims at subjugating" his brother Nawaz.

Ongoing Army War Games in Rawalpindi Reported

BK0908163689 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] The ongoing Army war game continued at the General Headquarters in Rawalpindi today with emphasis on correct evaluation of developing threats and effective response through bold offensive and interservice cooperation and coordination.

The chief of the Army staff, General Mirza Aslam Beg, laid stress on correct evaluation of the threat perspective and injecting greater offensive spirit commensurate with the Islamic heritage. He appreciated the strategic application of mechanized forces, commandos, and (?paratroopers).

Customs Officials Seize 6.5 Tonnes of Hashish

BK1008055589 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] In a major operation, customs officials seized about 6.5 tonnes of superior quality charas [hashish], which was being taken in a truck to Makran coast for smuggling. Four persons have been taken into custody on charges of smuggling.

Sri Lanka

AFP Updates Continuing Political Violence

BK0908165089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1634 GMT 9 Aug 89

[By Amal Jayasinghe]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 9 (AFP)—A Buddhist monk assassinated by anti-government militants last week was cremated here Wednesday amid tight security as 43 people died in political violence across Sri Lanka, officials said.

Hundreds of heavily armed soldiers and police forced people to attend the funeral ceremony of the monk, the venerable Kotikawatte Saddatissa, after mourners kept away fearing rebel reprisals, witnesses said.

"Buses were stopped by soldiers and passengers were politely but firmly asked to walk a short distance along the funeral route," one witness said.

A helicopter armed with machine-gun s dropped flowers over the cremation site at a public pa rk. The ceremony was attended by President Ranasing he Premadasa, a close associate of the slain monk, and senior ministers.

Members of the Janatha Vimukthi P ramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front), shot the m onk on August 3. Officials said the anti-government g roup had warned people against attending his funeral.

In other developments, JVP militants shot and killed a police officer at his home in the outhern town of Panadura late Tuesday, a military sp kesman said.

A leading Tamil businessman and loca film magnate, K. Gunaratnam, 73, was shot dead in Colombo's busy commercial area of Panchikawatte just after noon Wednesday, he said. No one claimed responsibility for the attack.

The government said in a statement th at members of the security forces shot dead four suspe ed subversives, a term used to describe the JVP, during search operations in the island's south.

Subversives killed 12 civilians while s curity forces had recovered five unidentified bodies, t e statement said, without giving details. The spokesma said most of the killings took place overnight.

The governement statement said th ee JVP suspects were killed when they tried to esca e from an Army camp in the southern village of Kotug da. The men had been arrested with "subversive litera re."

In central Ratnapura, two JVP memb rs were shot dead by unidentified men. Two posters fou d near the bodies said their deaths were punishment f supporting subversives, putting up JVP posters and illing people.

The statement said an armed gang killed a man in northwestern Anamaduwa area fo allegedly giving information to security forces. A p ient in southern Balangoda hospital was also killed by n unknown gang.

Witnesses said eight people had bee killed by gunmen in southern Matugama area while man's head was displayed in nearby Panadura town he victims were believed to be been gunned down by nti-JVP vigilante groups.

In the island's Tamil-populated r thern Vavuniya region, four Tamil guerrillas wer killed and four wounded in a gun battle late Tuesday ith Indian troops deployed in the area, diplomats said

They said the victims belonged to e most powerful Tamil militant group, the Liberati rs of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which is continuing a tinuing most powerful some 44,000 Indian troops in the isla Tigers of Tamil bush war against d's north-east.

Both the radical JVP and the LTTE are opposed, for different reasons, to the July 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord under which New Delhi sent its troops to the island.

In another development, Sri Lanka's opposition leader Sirimavo Bandaranaike called on the government Wednesday to set up a parliamentary committee to probe the "unprecedented violence" on the island and the "national tragedy."

In a statement to Parliament, Mrs. Bandaranaike, a former prime minister, said: "Hardly a day passes without having to hear of brutal killings, not just one or two, but dozens, sometimes hundreds.

"I suggest that Parliament sets up a select committee to fully investigate all aspects of this terrible national tragedy."

Film Producer Among 29 Killed

BK1008011889 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] Leading film producer of Sri Lanka, Mr K.G. Gunaratnam, has been killed in the continuing violence in that country. He was shot dead by two gunmen on a motorcycle in the busy (Panchikavata) area of Colombo City. Mr Gunaratnam owned cinema halls in Colombo and Jaffna. He produced more than 25 Sinhala films. Twenty-eight others lost their lives in fresh incidents of violence in Sri Lanka.

Police Station Attack, Union Strike Noted

BK1008062589 Hong Kong AFP in English 0557 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Colombo, Aug 10 (AFP)—Anti-government Sinhalese rebels attacked a police station in southern Sri Lanka Thursday [10 August], killing two policemen and escaping with a haul of weapons, officials here said.

An unspecified number of gunmen from the Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front) stormed the police station in the seaside resort of Bentota, military officials said quoting initial reports.

"We know that several automatic weapons had been removed from the station. Details are still sketchy," the military spokesman said.

The raid came hours after Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijertane told reporters here that the security situation in the country was improving and there were no "major skirmishes."

"The security situation had improved in the past 48 hours. There have been no major skirmishes in the south (where the JVP is active). But I keep my fingers crossed," Mr. Wijeratne said at the weekly cabinet press briefing.

He said some 1,500 people had been arrested during the past two weeks and were under interrogation for links with the radical Sinhalese group.

In another development, employees of the state-owned telecommunications monopoly staged a lightning strike Thursday in response to a call by a JVP-led trade union. The reason for the trade union action was not immediately known. [passage omitted]

Government Accused of Brutal Reprisals for Deaths

BK1008034489 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 10 Aug 89

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the leader of the opposition in Parliament has accused the government of responding to indiscriminate killings in the country with equally brutal reprisals. Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike of the Sri Lankan Freedom Party said the island was suffering a national tragedy and she called for a select committee to be set up to investigate. From Colombo, Chris Nettle reports:

[Begin recording] At least 3,000 people have been killed this year in unprecedented violence in the country. Human rights groups and opposition parties have accused government forces of killing many innocent civilians. Mrs Bandaranaike told MP's [members of Parliament] that people were being pulled out of their houses and brutally murdered. She said others were being taken away at night by men in uniforms in vehicles without number plates. Bodies were then found burning by the side of the roads the next day. She said, in one incident, the bodies of about 10 youths with their limbs broken had been added to the funeral pyre of an old man during the night. Mrs Bandaranaike said the government would not succeed in controlling the situation by killing the youths of the country. She proposed that a select committee should be set up to investigate the complaints pouring in of indiscriminate arrests and killings. [end recording]

President Asks All Parties To Appeal for Peace

BK0908121989 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 9 Aug 89

[Text] School children, university students, intellectuals, members of the Mahasangha [religious body] and the clergy, parties, people's representatives and innocent citizens are subjected to untold suffering and even senseless murder everyday. President R. Premadasa spoke on the suffering of all sections of the community when he addressed the Government Parliamentary Group [GPG] meeting at the house of Parliament yesterday.

He said that there could be certain external forces which are waiting for an opportunity to benefit from this sad sequence of events. The president noted that in this situation, he thought, party leaders must jointly make a public appeal to all political parties and groups. This

appeal should urge them to take steps to achieve their objective without resorting to violent action and disrupting the normal life of the people.

President R. Premadasa said that if a situation of normalcy is achieved through such an endeavor, all parties and groups may together formulate a well-considered plan of action for reconciliation among the people and restructuring of society. The government is always prepared to implement such a plan of action which would restore peace, discipline and prosperity to all the people.

The president said that the measures so far taken by the government to promote consultation, compromise and consensus has not received the positive response expected from the open invitation. He said an atmosphere of sorrow, fear and terror had overtaken the country. Later, the GPG unanimously adopted a motion moved by the president. It said the GPG resolved that the prime minister, leader of the house and the minister of parliamentary affairs should meet with the [words indistinct] and request him to invite party leaders to join in a public appeal to all political parties and other groups to take steps to achieve their objectives without resorting to acts of violence and disrupting the normal life of people.

Minister on Devolution of Power, Indian Pullout

BK1008132889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 10 Aug 89

[Text] The Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr Ranjan Wijeratne, has said that his government will not wait for the complete withdrawal of the peacekeeping force [PKF] for devolution of power to the provincial councils. If there are any snags in the devolution, they will be removed as fast as possible, he said.

Mr Wijeratne told a post-cabinet press briefing in Colombo today that after his talks in New Delhi he was convinced that India was not interested in permanently keeping its forces in Sri Lanka. He hoped that it would not be difficult for the leaders of India and Sri Lanka to arrive at an improved package with the fund of goo[illegible] will that now prevails between them.

Tamil Minister Demands Inclusion in Talks

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[Excerpts] New Delhi, Aug 9 (AFP)—The chief minister of Sri Lanka's Northeastern Province demanded Wednesday that he be included in future talks between Colombo and New Delhi on an Indian troop withdrawal and related issues, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

The news agency quoted Varadaraja Perumal as saying the discussions should be tripartite, "comprising myself, Indian and Sri Lankan governments." He called himself a representative of the Tamil minority.

He said any decision regarding the withdrawal of Indian troops from Sri Lanka and devolution of powers to Tamils should be taken on the basis of consensus after "dialogue and discussion" among the three.

He also said Colombo should not raise "unnecessary questions on protocol in inviting me if we have to resolve the ethnic issue," PTI reported.

Mr. Perumal, whose Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) administers the Tamil-populated Northeastern Province, has been here for a week.

His presence in the Indian capital when talks were in progress between the two governments on issues related to the troop withdrawal was seen as an annoyance to the Sri Lankan delegation.

The talks ended Friday without a resolution of thorny outstanding issues.

Mr. Perumal told PTI that the Indian troop presence was only a "peripheral issue," adding that concern should focus on the safety and security of Sri Lanka's two million Tamils and the devolution of powers.

If India was serious about implementing the July 1987 agreement with Colombo under which it sent the troops to the island, it "certainly cannot go for a total withdrawal at this juncture," he said. [passage omitted]

Mr. Perumal, who has been meeting Indian government figures here, said Colombo should recruit at least 15,000 Tamils into the Sri Lankan Armed Forces and 9,000 into the police to ensure proportional representation.

He said only 600 Tamils were in the Armed Forces, which he estimated was 60,000-strong, and 400 in the 28,000-strong police. Both bodies are dominated by the Sinhalese majority.

Recruitment and training would take a long time, he said, adding that Tamils would not feel secure without the Indian troops' presence until this was complete.